

NYWBA

NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION & Election of Officers and Directors

and
Ethics CLE Program on

"DUTIES, DUTIES, DUTIES: What to Do When Your Duties to Your Client Conflict With Your Duties to the Court or Third Parties"

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

~ NOTE DATE CHANGE ~

5:30 p.m. - Registration & Networking
6:00 p.m. - Annual Meeting and Elections
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Ethics CLE Program

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC
488 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, NYC

At the **Annual Meeting**, members will mingle, get updates on the Association, and vote on next year's NYWBA and WBASNY Officers, Directors & Delegates (see list of nominees on page 2). For details on the Annual Meeting, see notice on page 4.

Following the meeting, a panel of distinguished ethics attorneys will present a cutting edge ethics program on lawyers' duty of undivided loyalty and confidentiality to their clients, and how courts have interpreted those obligations when they conflict with one's duties to the court or third parties. For details on the Ethics CLE, see page 4.

The Annual Meeting & accompanying CLE program is one of the highlights of our year, so be sure to RSVP early for this event!

Save the Date!

New York Women's Bar Association Annual Awards & Installation Dinner Wednesday, June 26, 2013

6:00 p.m. - Cocktails, Silent Auction & Raffle
7:30 p.m. - Dinner & Program

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fighting for Equality

APRIL 2013



Hon. Jacqueline W.
Silbermann

One of the fundamental principles in our mission is to "promote the fair and equal administration of justice." I am proud that the Women's Bar is continuing to fight for equality – in the courts, in the legislature, and in the public arena.

In the Courts – The Women's Bar is an amicus in two important equality cases before the U.S. Supreme Court – Perry v. Hollingsworth and U.S. v. Windsor. Both cases address the rights of same sex couples. Perry arises out of the "Prop 8" initiative in California, and the issue there is whether it is unconstitutional for the electorate to bar same sex couples from marrying. Windsor questions whether same sex couples who are legally married must be treated equally with all other "spouses" under federal and state law.

The Windsor case arose in New York. Edith Windsor and Dr. Thea Spyer were together more than 40 years and were legally married in Canada. When Dr. Spyer died, she left her entire estate to Ms. Windsor. The federal "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA), however, forbids federal and state governments from recognizing marriages unless they are between one man and one woman. Since Ms. Windsor and Dr. Spyer were both women, Ms. Windsor was denied the standard "spousal exemption" under the tax code and was

(Continued on Page 2)

Announcements & Calendar of Upcoming Events:

- 4/3 - *Trying Child or Spousal Support Cases* - p. 7
 - 4/6 - CLE (NJ) - *Behold the Power of Woman* - p. 4
 - 4/9 - Working Parents Committee Meeting - p. 11
 - 4/14 - WBASNY/Chapters- Family Outing - "*Charlotte's Web*" - p. 3
 - 4/16 - Lunch with *Federal District Court Judge Nathan* - p. 9
 - 4/17 - Express Lunch - *Per Diem Practice in Civil Court* - p. 10
 - 4/18 - *Basics of Medicaid Planning* - p. 9
 - 4/18 - CLE - *Pregnancy Discrimination* - p. 8
 - 4/18 - Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee - p. 3
 - 4/23 - Annual Membership Meeting & Elections - p. 4
 - 4/23 - Ethics CLE - *When Duties to Clients Conflict with Duties to Others* - p. 4
 - 4/30 - Member Event - *New York City Ballet & Backstage Tour* - p. 7
 - 5/6 - Lunch with a *New York County Surrogate Court Judge* - p. 7
 - 5/7 - *Navigating Special Needs Issues for Children in Divorce Cases* - p. 9
 - 5/8 - "*Women's Rights in Islamic World After Arab Spring*" - p. 11
 - 5/9 - *End of Life Care: The Hospice & Palliative Care Experience* - p. 10
 - 5/13 - CLE - *Persuasive Writing for Lawyers* - p. 8
 - 5/14 - Working Parents Committee - *Brown Bag Lunch Meeting* - p. 3
- Check www.nywba.org for more Meetings, Programs & Events

~ Notice to Members ~

NYWBA ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS and ETHICS CLE - April 23, 2013

The **Annual Membership Meeting and Elections** will be held on **Tuesday, April 23, 2013** at 6:00 p.m., and will be followed by an **Ethics CLE Program** (see notice, page 4). All members are welcome at the Annual Meeting, and members in good standing whose 2012-2013 dues were received by January 31 may vote. (NYWBA By-Laws, Art. XIV, Section 1.)

Votes will be taken for the positions listed below.

NYWBA NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

NYWBA OFFICERS (2013-2014)

President:	Hon. Jacqueline W. Silberman
Vice Presidents:	Yacine Barry
	Julie Hyman
	Jennifer P. Brown
Treasurer:	Deborah G. Rosenthal
Recording Secretary:	Amy B. Goldsmith
Corresponding Secretary:	Virginia A. LoPreto

NYWBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS Class of 2013-2016

Dawn M. Cardi	Hon. Kelly O'Neill Levy
Felice B. Ekelman	Kathryn E. Salensky
Myra L. Freed	Victoria A. Turchetti
Hon. Judith J. Gische	

Class of 2012-2015 (to fill an unexpired term)
Amy Saltzman

NYWBA COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS Class of 2013-2015

Elizabeth A. Bryson	Myra L. Freed
Jo Ann Douglas	Gretchen Beall Schumann

NYWBA MEMBERS OF WBASNY BOARD (2013-2014)

Yacine Barry	Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Jennifer P. Brown	Patricia Ann Grant
Elizabeth A. Bryson	Julie Hyman
Dawn M. Cardi	Marjorie Martin
Jo Ann Douglas	Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff

WBASNY NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

President-Elect **Donna E. Frosco** (*Westchester Chapter*) will be installed as President at the **WBASNY Convention** on **June 8, 2013**. The WBASNY Nominations Committee nominated the following for other WBASNY officer positions:

President-Elect:	Irene V. Villacci (<i>Nassau</i>)
Vice Presidents:	Andrea F. Composto (<i>Brooklyn</i>)
	Jacqueline P. Flug (<i>Bronx</i>)
	Maureen Crush (<i>Orange-Sullivan</i>)
	Annette G. Hasapidis (<i>Westchester</i>)
Treasurer:	Amy Saltzman (<i>NYWBA</i>)
Recording Secretary:	
Corresponding Secretary:	Ann Baldwin Littman (<i>Rockland</i>)

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

required to pay more than \$500,000 in federal and state estate taxes that would not have been owed had her spouse been a man.

The Women's Bar of the State of New York (of which NYWBA is a founding Chapter) participated in a critical *amicus* brief with other public service organizations in the Second Circuit in *Windsor*, and before the U.S. Supreme Court in both *Windsor* and *Perry*. The briefs argue that DOMA is unconstitutional, and that discrimination based on sexual orientation should be subject to the "heightened scrutiny" standard that applies to other "protected classes" (such as sex, race, etc.).

WBASNY's Amicus Curiae Committee (Co-Chairs Melinda Saran, Alayne Katz, and NYWBA Past President Elizabeth Bryson) and other WBASNY Committees had the opportunity to review and edit the briefs in both cases. The Supreme Court also raised a number of standing and jurisdictional issues in the cases that were separately briefed. Oral argument was held on March 26 and 27, and we await a decision.

In the Legislature – At its March 23rd Board meeting, WBASNY voted to endorse the "Women's Equality Agenda" (WEA) a proposal by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to draft legislation to address ten major issues affecting women, including:

- Protecting a woman's freedom of choice
- Achieving pay equity
- Stopping sexual harassment in all workplaces
- Allowing for recovery of attorneys' fees in employment, credit and lending cases
- Strengthening human trafficking laws
- Ending family status discrimination
- Stopping source-of-income discrimination
- Stopping housing discrimination for victims of domestic violence
- Stopping pregnancy discrimination once and for all
- Protecting domestic violence victims by strengthening order-of-protection laws

The Women's Bar and other public service organizations will work together and with the NYS Legislature to review proposed legislation on each of the above ten points, and to create a groundswell for change.

In the Public Arena – Another important way to promote the fair and equal administration of justice is to educate. As you will see in this month's Newsletter and on our website calendar, we are in the forefront in presenting and co-sponsoring cutting-edge programs on issues of fairness, equality, responsibility, and opportunity. Recent examples include programs on pregnancy discrimination (CLE notice, p. 8), ethics (CLE notice, p. 4), the rights of women in the Middle East after the "Arab Spring" (program notice, p. 11), rights and benefits for veterans (article, p. 6), ensuring spousal and child support (program notice, p. 7), ensuring the rights of and care for the elderly and disabled (program notices, pp. 9 & 10), and meeting the needs of working parents (meeting notice, p. 11).

Over the coming months, WBASNY, NYWBA, and other WBASNY Chapters across New York State will continue to present programs on topics that are relevant to the Women's Equality Agenda that will be open to members and non-members to promote equality and push the WEA forward. I hope you will join us.

Jackie

COMMITTEE NEWS

- The **Civil Courts Committee** will present a **Civil Court Express Lunch** on **April 17** at 1:00 p.m. – **"Discussion of Per Diem Practice in Civil Court"** (see notice, p. 10). There will also be a Civil Court Committee meeting on **April 23** at 5:30 p.m. at Ephron-Mandel & Howard, LLP, 299 Broadway, Suite 1615. Email CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org to RSVP or for additional info.
- The **Criminal Law Committee** will present a CLE Program on **"Persuasive Writing for Lawyers"** on **May 13** (see notice, p. 8). To RSVP or for more info, email CrimLawRSVP@nywba.org. Additional programs are being planned.
- The **Elder Law & Disabilities Committee** will present a CLE program on **April 18** on **"The Basics of Medicaid Planning"** (see notice, p. 9). On **May 9** the Committee is planning a program on **"End of Life Care: Wishes Wants and Needs, Hospice and Palliative Care Experience"** (see notice, p. 10.) For info, email ElderLawChairs@nywba.org.
- The **Equal Employment and Opportunity for Women Committee** will present a CLE program on **"Pregnancy Discrimination"** on **April 18** (see notice, p. 8). Email EEOWChairs@nywba.org for details.
- The **Legislation Committee** will meet on **April 22** at the offices of Co-Chair Amy Saltzman, 114 W. 47th St., 19th Fl., NYC, to discuss pending legislation and initiatives, including the Women's Equality Agenda. RSVP to Legislation@nywba.org.
- The **Litigation Committee** will present a **"Lunch with a Judge"** program on **April 16** with U.S. District Court Judge Alison Nathan (see notice, p. 9). RSVP at Litigation@nywba.org. It is also co-sponsoring another **"Lunch with a Judge"** program on **May 6** with Judge Rita Mella, Surrogate Judge for New York County (see notice, p. 7) and a CLE program on **"Persuasive Writing for Lawyers"** on **May 13** (see notice, p. 8).
- The **Matrimonial and Family Law Committee** holds meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Blank Rome, LLP, 405 Lexington, NYC. RSVP - MFRsvp@nywba.org. The meeting on **April 3** will feature a program on **"Trying Your Child or Spousal Support Case in Family or Supreme Courts"** (see notice, p. 7). On **May 7** there is a joint program with New York City Bar on navigating special needs issues for children in divorce cases (see notice, p. 9), and **June 5** a program on common problems in post-judgment proceedings and how attorneys can draft agreements to avoid them.
- The **Professional Ethics and Discipline Committee** will meet on **April 1** at 5:30 p.m. at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, 488 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor. Members are welcome. Email ethicschairs@nywba.org to RSVP. The Committee is also presenting a CLE Ethics Program on **April 23** entitled **"Duties, Duties, Duties – What to Do When Your Duties to Your Client Conflict with Your Duties to the Court or Third Parties?"** (see notice, p. 4).
- The **Programs & Events Committee** will meet on **April 17** at 6:00 p.m. at the Law Offices of Jennifer Brown, 570 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1600. The Committee has also arranged for a special member event at the **New York City Ballet** on **April 30** with a performance and an exclusive backstage tour (see notice, p. 7). For more info email Events@nywba.org.
- The **Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee** will meet on **April 18** at 8:30 A.M. The location of the meeting and the topic TBD. For location and to RSVP, email SSFChairs@nywba.org.
- The **Students and New Lawyers Committee** is planning future meetings. For info or to join the Committee, email SNL@nywba.org.
- The **Trusts & Estates Committee** will present a **"Lunch with a Judge"** program on **May 6** with Judge Rita Mella, Surrogate Judge for New York County (see notice, p. 7).
- The **Working Parents Committee** has scheduled the following brown bag lunch meetings, all at 12:30 p.m. On **April 9** at Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP, 521 Fifth Avenue, 31st Floor. RSVP to Jacqueline Newman (jnewman@berkbot.com) and Co-Chair Victoria Turchetti (vturchetti@condonlaw.com). On **May 14** at MetLife, MetLife Building, 200 Park Avenue, 40th Floor, RSVP (you must RSVP so your name is on the building security list) to Christine

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sandra N. Benjamin	Audrey Mars
Nicole Brodsky	Ani Mason
Caroline L. Chen	Ernestine J. Mings
Debra S. Cohen	Kayla Pesserillo
Jennifer Lynn DeStefano	Evridiki Poumpouridis
Steven R. Dyki	Dakota D. Ramseur
Stacie B. Feldman	Angela T. Rella
Katherine Gregory	Shane J. Rosen-Gould
Sarah Haag	Kelly Dana Schneid
Shaimaa Hussein	Neena Tankha
Valerie B. Igbinoehene	Gulsun Turkmenogullari
Deborah A. Johnson	

NOTES ON MEMBERS

NYWBA congratulates member **Anthony W. Vaughn, Jr.**, who has been elevated to be *Of Counsel* at Parker Ibrahim & Berg LLC. Mr. Vaughn's practice focuses on the representation of financial institutions in the mortgage banking industry, and he represents architects and engineers, providing litigation and general counsel.

Has something noteworthy happened to you or another member? Send your news to Newsletter@nywba.org.

A WBASNY FAMILY OUTING

Children's Theatre Event & Lunch

A Chance to Play and Network!

"CHARLOTTE'S WEB"

- Date:** Sunday, April 14, 2013
Time: Noon to 3:00 p.m. (*show starts at 1:00 p.m.*)
Place: Queens Theatre in the Park
 Flushing Meadow Park, Queens
Cost: \$12.00 per person for Theatre Tickets
 \$15.00 per family for pizza & beverages
 before the show (*lunch starts at noon*)
 Free on-site parking available
RSVP: JFlug@wbasny.org

Hosted by:

Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, New York
 Women's Bar Association, Bronx Women's Bar Association,
 Brooklyn Women's Bar Association, Queens County Women's
 Bar Association, Westchester Women's Bar Association

Harman (chairman@MetLife.com or 212-578-7647 (Upon arrival call Christine directly at (212)-578-7647 or (201) 704-9109 (cell) to be admitted through the glass doors). **June 11** at Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP, 521 Fifth Avenue, 31st Floor. RSVP to Jacqueline Newman (jnewman@berkbot.com) and Co-Chair Victoria Turchetti (vturchetti@condonlaw.com). The Committee is also co-sponsoring a program on **"Pregnancy Discrimination"** on **April 18** (see notice, p. 8). For further information check the website calendar or contact the Chairs at WPChairs@nywba.org.

• Check the **NYWBA Calendar** (www.nywba.org/calendar) for the latest info on Committee meetings, programs & events.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

and Election of Officers and Directors

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 (*note new date!*)

At the **Annual Meeting**, members will mingle, get updates on the Association, and vote on NYWBA and WBASNY Officers, Directors & Delegates for next year. (See list of nominees on page 2.) This is one of the highlights of our year, and we hope you will join in the festivities!

Following the Annual Meeting, a panel of distinguished ethics attorneys will present an ethics program on lawyers' duty of undivided loyalty and confidentiality to clients, and what to do when that duty conflicts with one's duties to the court or third parties. (*For details on the Ethics CLE, see notice at right.*)

Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Time: 5:30 p.m. - Registration & Networking
6:00 p.m. - Annual Meeting and Elections
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Ethics CLE Program

Place: Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC
488 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, NYC
(between 51st & 52nd Streets)

Cost: Meeting and/or CLE - Complimentary for members
Meeting (only) - Complimentary for Non-Members
CLE Program - \$50 for Non-Members & Guests
Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/EthicsRSVP for details and to register for Meeting and/or CLE. Advance registration is required.

Presenters thank the NYWBA Board, the Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest and Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC for helping to underwrite the costs of the CLE program. NYWBA also thanks **Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC** for hosting.

New Jersey CLE Program

"Behold the Power of Woman"

This conference offers CLE credits for New Jersey attorneys and includes workshops on: Gun Control Laws & the Second Amendment, Gay Marriage & the Law, Law & Mediation, Human Trafficking & the Law, and Domestic Violence & the Law.

Date: Saturday, April 6, 2013 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Place: The Westin in Mount Laurel, New Jersey

CLE: 8.0 CLE credits for NJ attorneys only.*

Cost: \$200 (includes meals, snacks & beverages)

NOTE: Program is **NOT** free for members and does **NOT** offer NYS CLE. It is printed here as a courtesy to members admitted in NJ.

RSVP: Go to **National STOPtheViolence.org**

***CLE:** National Stop the Violence Alliance, Inc. has been approved to provide 8.0 CLE credits by the New Jersey Supreme Court Board on Continued Learning Education. Attendees must attend all workshops.

NYWBA Professional Ethics & Discipline Committee presents

Ethics CLE Program

"DUTIES, DUTIES, DUTIES: What to Do When Your Duties to Your Client Conflict With Your Duties to the Court or Third Parties"

Lawyers frequently find themselves facing conflicting duties. What happens when an attorney's duty of undivided loyalty and confidentiality to a client conflicts with her duties to the court or third parties? Following the Annual Meeting (see notice at left), a panel of distinguished ethics attorneys will discuss how to identify, analyze and resolve some of these thorny issues. The program will cover communicating with represented and non-represented parties, candor to the tribunal, and duties of confidentiality. Then we will try to "stump the panel" by challenging them with some outrageous scenarios ripped from real life.

Panelists

Deborah A. Scalise, Esq.

Partner, Scalise & Hamilton LLP; Co-Chair, Professional Ethics Committee of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York; Chair, CLE Committee of the New York State Bar Association; former Deputy Chief Counsel to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee for the First Judicial Department.

Hal R. Lieberman, Esq.

Partner, Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP; former Chief Counsel to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee for the First Judicial Department; frequent contributor to the New York Law Journal on ethics issues.

Moderator

Nicole I. Hyland, Esq.

Counsel, Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility Group, Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC; Co-Chair, NYWBA Professional Ethics & Discipline Committee; Member, Ethics Committees of the New York City Bar Association and the Media Law Resource Center.

Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 (*Note New Date!*)

Time: 5:30 p.m. - Registration & Networking
6:00 p.m. - Annual Meeting and Elections
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Ethics CLE Program

Place: Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC
488 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, NYC
(between 51st & 52nd Streets)

CLE: 1.5 Ethics CLE Credits* (accreditation pending)

Cost: Complimentary for Women's Bar members**
\$50 for Non-Members and Guests***
Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/EthicsRSVP for details and to register. NOTE: Advance registration is required.

Presenters thank the NYWBA Board, the Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest and Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC for helping to underwrite the costs of this program.

***CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

****Membership:** If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/ membership to join or renew. Members of other WBASNY Chapters should indicate their Women's Bar Association Chapter in their RSVP.

*****Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact CLE Chair Amy B. Goldsmith (agoldsmith@tarterkrinsky.com). All requests are confidential.

Five Actions To Boost Your Retirement Confidence

by Michael B. Salmon

Recent research* reveals many contradictions in the way Americans are thinking about and preparing for their retirement. Not surprising is the fact that the vast majority of people nearing retirement want to be happy and healthy during their golden years. Yet many feel uncertain about affording the things they need and want in retirement, though they (some admittedly) aren't necessarily taking the steps to help secure a more confident retirement.

Confidence and preparation go hand-in-hand, and Americans could use a little more of both. The data from the survey showed that those who have taken the following five actions are significantly more likely to say they feel confident about affording the essential expenses in retirement.

1. Create a plan to cover essential expenses with guaranteed income sources. Determining how you will fund your necessary expenses in retirement with guaranteed income sources (such as a CD, Social Security or an annuity) can be challenging, but it can also be very beneficial. You can begin thinking about this, even if you haven't yet reached your savings goals.

2. Have a written financial plan. Creating and maintaining a document with a plan for how you will fund your short- and long-term goals is important at any stage of your life, but especially as you near retirement. Start by putting your debts, assets, savings and lifestyle goals down on paper and decide how you'll fund each goal after you've left the workforce. Then come up with a savings strategy based on when you plan to retire and how much you'd like to save before then.

3. Factor inflation into retirement planning. The cost of maintaining your lifestyle may increase as the rate of inflation rises over time. The loss of purchasing power is a real risk, but understanding how it may impact your retirement income is crucial so that you can hedge against it. Consider working with a financial professional who can help you calculate possible inflation.

4. Have emergency cash on hand equal to six months of living expenses. This is a key part of a financial plan at any age, but an unexpected event such as a divorce, job loss or disability can be especially devastating to your finances as you near retirement. Keeping at least three months worth of living expenses in liquid accounts creates a financial cushion that you likely won't regret having.

5. Calculate how much annual income assets will produce in retirement. This step can be complex, but it can also be helpful in determining how much income you will have to fund your retirement as time goes by. Having an accurate picture of the income your assets may produce can also help you create an annual budget for your retirement.

While some of these actions may be easier said than done, understanding the steps to a more confident retirement is a crucial first step in itself. Preparing for retirement might feel overwhelming, but breaking it down into smaller goals can make it seem less intimidating. If you are nearing retirement and haven't done several of these things, consider choosing one or two to focus on.

The future may always feel a bit uncertain, but proper preparation can lead to increased financial confidence now and during your golden years.

Endnote:

* The Retirement Check-In® survey was created by Ameriprise Financial utilizing survey responses from 1,000 employed Americans ages 50-70. All respondents have investable assets of at least \$100,000 (including employer retirement plans, but not real estate) and are planning to retire at some point.



Michael Salmon is a Senior Financial Advisor with Ameriprise Financial, specializing in Financial Planning, Investment Portfolio Management, Retirement Planning Strategies, Estate Planning Strategies, and Saving for Education. He is an active public speaker and financial columnist. He is licensed and registered to conduct business in NY. Based on licenses and registrations he holds, he may also conduct business in MI, MA, OR, FL, PA, NM, NC, CA, RI, CT, KY, NJ, and LA. You can reach him at 646-964-9470 or michael.b.salmon@ampf.com.

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Save the Date!

WBASNY CONVENTION Philadelphia ~ June 6-9, 2013

The Annual Convention is a great opportunity for Women's Bar members across the state to meet and mingle, to attend first class CLEs, and to celebrate as WBASNY presents its prestigious awards and installs its officers for the coming year.

***NYWBA Member AMY SALTZMAN Nominated to be
Installed as a WBASNY Officer at Convention!***

The WBASNY Nominations Committee has voted to nominate long-time NYWBA member **Amy Saltzman** to serve as Recording Secretary of WBASNY for 2013-2014. Amy is a current NYWBA Officer, a past NYWBA Director, currently Co-Chairs the NYWBA Legislation Committee, and has chaired many NYWBA and WBASNY committees. She is also a past member of the Rockland and Westchester Women's Bar Associations.

***NYWBA Member ELIZABETH A. BRYSON
to Receive Award at WBASNY Convention!***

The WBASNY Awards Committee has voted to present its 2013 **Marilyn Menge Award for Extraordinary Service to the Women's Bar**, to a long-time NYWBA member **Elizabeth A. Bryson**. Beth is a past NYWBA President, a past WBASNY Officer, and has chaired many NYWBA and WBASNY committees.

Look for more info coming soon. As past attendees can attest, Conventions are great fun. ***Be sure to make plans to join us at Convention in Philadelphia in June.***

Helping Those Who Served This Country Get the Benefits They Deserve

By Latisha Allen

The men and women who served in the branches of the United States Armed Forces are members of a unique population that is entitled to an array of benefits. If you are looking to support the men and women who served this country, expand your practice, and serve your clients better, you can start by asking your next client, "Are you or a member of your family a veteran?"

The New York Women's Bar Association **Elder Law & Disabilities Committee** held a 3-credit CLE program on March 14, 2013 to learn about legal issues that affect veterans, and the benefits available to them under the law and relevant regulations. The program was also designed to assist attorneys in becoming accredited to represent veterans before the Veterans Administration. Speaker **Felicia Pasculli, Esq.**, a Certified Elder Law Attorney and founder of Family Council at Northport VA Medical Center Nursing Home, presented an informative and entertaining program. It is impossible to recount all of the topics covered during the three-hour program, but here is a high-level summary.

There are more than 23 million living veterans. Approximately 8 million veterans are disabled, and about half are over the age of 60. As the U.S. population gets older, more and more of an attorney's clients will be veterans who may be entitled to receive benefits. Most often veterans are entitled to receive pension or compensation benefits.

To be eligible for a pension, veterans must (a) be 65 or older or permanently and totally disabled, (b) have served at least one day of active duty during a period of war, and (c) have a low-income household. Compensation, on the other hand, is paid to veterans who have a disease, injury, or disability that is connected to the veteran's service. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, injuries from Agent Orange, and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) are some of the most common ailments. Military sexual trauma (MST) has also recently been recognized. Compensation is paid according to a rate scale, based on the degree to which the ailment has impacted the veteran's ability to function in daily life.

Ms. Pasculli explained that knowing whether a client is a veteran could also impact estate and Medicaid planning. If an attorney is aware that a client is a veteran, the attorney can ensure that the veteran does not disqualify himself or herself from federal benefits such as Medicaid. In addition, veterans can utilize VA benefits to supplement income or to pay for gaps in medical coverage.

Ms. Pasculli advised that acquiring benefits is not necessarily an easy task. The application process is plagued with extensive backlogs and typically yields very low numbers of approved applications. An attorney can assist veterans by not only making them aware of potential benefits, but also with appealing the denial of an application for benefits.

When benefits are denied, an attorney can be retained to assist the veteran with the appeal process. An initial appeal goes before the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) in Washington, D.C. The attorney can choose to make a written submission alone (without a hearing) or to request a hearing, which allows the

attorney not only to submit papers, but also to submit additional information, such as witnesses and supporting information from the veteran's service record.

If an appeal to the BVA is unsuccessful, the veteran can seek judicial review of the BVA's decision. The Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims was created in 1988. Based on the record from the BVA, the court can affirm, modify, or reverse the decision.

The program was well attended, and the attendees learned a great deal about Veteran's Benefits, a topic that is rarely covered by most bar associations. The Elder Law and Disabilities Committee thanks distinguished speaker **Felicia Pasculli** for her terrific presentation, NYWBA Past President & Director **Elizabeth A. Bryson** and NYWBA Board member **Amy B. Goldsmith** for their invaluable assistance with program logistics and CLE accreditation, **Tarter Krinsky & Drogin LLP** for hosting the event, and Committee Chairs **Antonia J. Martinez** and **Kim F. Trigoboff** for organizing such a worthwhile evening.

Latisha Allen is a law student at New York Law School with a passion to serve the elderly and empower her community. She is a member of the NYWBA Elder Law & Disabilities Committee and participates in the New York Law School Elder Law Clinic.



Speaker Felicia Pasculli, Esq. (center) with Elder Law and Disabilities Committee Co-Chairs Antonia J. Martinez and Kim Trigoboff.



NYWBA Matrimonial & Family Law Committee Program

"Trying Your Child or Spousal Support Case in Family or Supreme Courts"

This program will feature distinguished speakers Matthew J. Troy, III, Esq., Support Magistrate in New York County Family Court, and Steven E. Liebman, Esq., Special Referee in New York County Supreme Court. They will discuss ways to try these cases, and review issues of deviations and imputed income. *(No discussion of pending cases.) Space is limited, so RSVP today!*

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. *(No one will be admitted after 6:30 p.m.)*
Place: Blank Rome LLP, 405 Lexington Avenue
The Chrysler Building at 42nd Street, NYC
Cost: Free for Women's Bar members*
(You must be a member to attend)
RSVP: MFrsvp@nywba.org - Due to space limitations, **advance registration is required and ONLY 2012-2013 members will be admitted.**

*The Committee thanks **Blank Rome LLP** for hosting and the NYWBA Board for underwriting the cost of refreshments.*

* **Membership:** If you are not a current member, it's easy to join or renew using our secure online membership form at www.nywba.org/Membership.

New York Women's Bar Association

Opening Night of the New York City Ballet with Exclusive Backstage Tour

The Programs and Events Committee has arranged for this lovely event, an exclusive backstage tour, and with a discount price for members and guests. *Space is extremely limited, so RSVP today!*

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2013
Time: 5:45 p.m. - Exclusive Backstage Tour
7:30 p.m. - Performance
Place: David H. Koch Theatre, Lincoln Center,
132 West 65th Street, at Broadway, NYC
Cost: \$50 per person *(paid in advance)*
RSVP: www.nywba.org/BalletRSVP/

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

Please join us for this festive opening of the spring season of the New York City Ballet. Opening night features an all-Balanchine program. We will meet in the lobby of the Koch Theatre promptly at 5:45 p.m. and enjoy a backstage tour given by a company dancer prior to the performance. Tickets are limited so RSVP early!

NYWBA Trusts & Estates Committee

presents

"Lunch with a New York Surrogate Judge"

The Trusts and Estates Committee is proud to join the NYWBA's "Lunch with a Judge" Series, where you can learn from the real-world experience of sitting jurists. This edition of the series will be of particular import to trusts and estates practitioners.

Meet Honorable Rita Mella,
Surrogate, County of New York

Date: Monday, May 6, 2013, 1:00 p.m.
(Event will begin promptly; be sure to allot sufficient time to get through court security.)
Place: NY Surrogate's Court, 31 Chambers Street,
Courtroom 503, NYC (corner of Centre St.)
Cost: Program is free, but space is limited, so please send your RSVP promptly. Priority will be given to NYWBA and WBASNY Chapter members.*
RSVP: **RSVP no later than May 1st.**
(RSVP form will be available online shortly.
In the meantime, send name & contact info for all attendees to Executive Director Karen Lu at ED@nywba.org. If you later have to cancel, please notify us, so we can release your seat.)
NOTE: This is a "brown bag" event, so bring your own lunch. **Discussion of pending cases at this event is prohibited.**

* If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form. If you are a member of another Chapter, please indicate that in your RSVP.

Did You Know?

NYWBA Newsletters Are Available Online

Just go to www.nywba.org/members. The current issue of the NYWBA Newsletter is available online, along with past editions (back to 2004).

As part of our "green" initiative, half of the NYWBA Newsletters now appear only in an electronic format. The "eNews" editions have the same layout and all of the great articles, photos and announcements as the print editions. You can easily read the eNewsletter on your computer or print it out.

Note: You must have the current user name and password to access the "Members Only" areas of the NYWBA website where the electronic editions of the Newsletter can be found. If you are not yet a member for 2012-2013, please join or renew using our secure online membership form at www.nywba.org/membership. If you are a current member but did not receive the recent email about the new password for the Members Only pages, contact Executive Director Karen Lu (ED@nywba.org) to get the new password or to inquire about your membership status.

**NYWBA Equal Employment Opportunity
for Women Committee presents:**

"Pregnancy Rights in the Workplace:

***An Overview of Leave and
Antidiscrimination Laws"***

featuring distinguished speakers

Anne L. Clark, Esq.

Partner, Vladeck, Waldman, Elias & Engelhard, PC;

Tara L. Touloumis, Esq.

Associate, Jackson Lewis LLP

This program, which is being co-sponsored by the **Working Parents Committee**, will provide the latest information about the rights of pregnant women in the workplace. Speakers **Anne L. Clark** and **Tara L. Touloumis** have extensive experience handling cases and claims in this area, and they will provide a comprehensive overview of the leading cases, laws, regulations and trends.

Space is limited, so RSVP today!

Date: Thursday, April 18, 2013

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - CLE Program
7:00 p.m. - Networking Reception

Place: Jackson Lewis LLP, 666 Third Avenue,
30th Fl., NYC (between 42nd & 43rd Streets)

CLE: 1.0 MCLE Credit* (Accreditation pending)

Cost: Free for Women's Bar Members**
\$35 for non-members & guests***

RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/PregnancyCLE for
details and to register

Info: For info about this program or the EEOW
Committee, contact Co-Chairs Felice Ekelman
& Lou Pechman at EEOWChairs@nywba.org

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

The Committee thanks the **NYWBA Board** and the **Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest** for helping to underwrite this program.

Thanks as well to **Jackson Lewis LLP** for hosting.

***CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

****Membership:** If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/membership to join or renew.

*****Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact CLE Chair Amy B. Goldsmith (agoldsmith@tarterkrinsky.com). All requests are confidential.

NYWBA wishes to acknowledge the generous gift from

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Her financial bequest has helped to
underwrite the cost of this newsletter and
several CLE programs mentioned herein.

**THE NEW YORK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
Criminal Law and Litigation Committees present**

CLE Program

"Persuasive Writing for Lawyers"

featuring

Honorable Gerald Lebovits

Judge of the New York Civil Court, Bronx County

Date: Monday, May 13, 2013

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Place: Newman Ferrara LLP
1250 Broadway, 27th Floor, NYC
(enter on 32nd Street)

CLE: 2.0 CLE Credits* (accreditation pending)

Cost: Complimentary for Women's Bar members**
\$50 for Non-Members and Guests
Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP: Go to www.nywba.org/LegalWritingCLE for
details and to register.

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

Presenters thank the **NYWBA Board** and the **Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest** for helping to underwrite the costs of this program.

NYWBA also thanks **Newman Ferrara LLP** for hosting.

***CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

****Membership:** Go to www.nywba.org/membership if you are not a current member to join or renew. Members of other WBASNY Chapters should indicate their member Chapter in their RSVP.

*****Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact CLE Chair Amy B. Goldsmith (agoldsmith@tarterkrinsky.com). All requests are confidential.

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NYWBA Litigation Committee

presents

"Lunch with a Judge"

NYWBA Litigation Committee is proud to present the "Lunch with a Judge" Series, where you can learn from the real-world experience of judges. Our program will be of particular import to litigators and those who practice in the federal courts.

Meet Honorable Alison J. Nathan

U.S. District Court Judge, Southern District of New York

- Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 1:00 p.m.
(Event will begin promptly; be sure to allot sufficient time to get through court security.)
- Place:** Judge Nathan's Courtroom, U.S. District Court, SDNY, 40 Foley Square, NYC (at Centre Street) - Courtroom 906
- Cost:** Program is free, but space is limited, so please send your RSVP promptly. Priority will be given to NYWBA and WBASNY Chapter members.*

RSVP: RSVP no later than April 15. Send name and contact info for all attendees to Litigation Co-Chairs Marni Rae Robin, Kathy Lynch and Francesca Sabbatino at LitigationChairs@nywba.org. If you RSVP and later have to cancel, please notify Litigation Chairs, so we can release your seat.

NOTES: Unfortunately, no food is permitted in federal courtrooms, so this will be a discussion rather than a "lunch." *Discussion of pending cases at this event is prohibited.*

* If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form. If you are a member of another Chapter, indicate that in your RSVP.

NYWBA Matrimonial and Family Law Committee and New York City Bar

present a program on

Children's Special Needs

Planning for this program is underway. Details will be available on the NYWBA website and in the May Newsletter.

- Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
Place: New York City Bar Association
42 West 44th Street, NYC
Info: MFrsvp@nywba.org

If you are interested in joining the Committee, send your contact info and any ideas for future programs and events to Co-Chairs Virginia LoPreto, Michele Tortorelli and Hon. Lori Sattler at MFChairs@nywba.org.

Elder Law and Disabilities Program

"Basics of Medicaid Planning"

featuring distinguished speaker

Deepankar Mukerji, Esq.

Of Counsel, Keane and Beane, P.C.
(Former Director of the Bureau of Resources,
Westchester County Department of Social Services)

This program will provide an overview of Medicaid and the requirements to establish Medicaid eligibility at home or in skilled nursing facilities.

Speaker Deepankar Mukerji has extensive experience in this area, both as a former senior official at the Westchester Department of Social Services, and in his current practice, which focuses on elder law, Medicaid planning, guardianships, estate administration, and trusts. This program will provide an excellent foundation for those who seek to include Medicaid planning as part of their practice.

Space is limited, so RSVP today!

- Date:** Thursday, April 18, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Place: Newman Ferrara LLP
1250 Broadway, 27th Fl., NYC
Cost: Free for Members*
(\$35 non-members**)
CLE: 1.5 MCLE Credits** (Accreditation pending)
RSVP: Members and non-members register at ElderLawRSVP@nywba.org. Non-members should send payment by check to:
NYWBA, 132 East 43rd Street, #716,
The Chrysler Building, New York, NY
10017-4019 & mark "Medicaid CLE" in the memo field.

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

The Committee thanks the NYWBA Board and the Hon. Florence Perlow Shientag Bequest for helping to underwrite this program.

Thanks as well to Newman Ferrara LLP for hosting.

***Membership:** If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/membership to join or renew.

****Financial Hardship Scholarships:** Full and partial scholarships are available based on financial need. For info, contact CLE Chair Amy B. Goldsmith (agoldsmith@tarterkrinsky.com). All requests are confidential.

*****CLE:** New York Women's Bar Association is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, an accredited CLE provider. Approval of CLE credit is pending in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for established attorneys and as transitional credit hours for newly admitted attorneys.

New York Civil Court Express Lunch Series

NYWBA Civil Courts Committee is proud to present the "New York Civil Court Express Lunch Series," where you can learn from the real-world experience of fellow practitioners and Civil Court staff, network, and enjoy a light lunch. Please join us for our April program, which will cover the following topic:

"Per Diem Practice in Civil Court"

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Place: NY Civil Courthouse, 111 Centre Street,
12th Floor Board Room, NYC
(Attendees must enter via **White Street** entrance)

Cost: Complimentary for Women's Bar Members
\$20 for Non-Members & Guests
(A light lunch is included with the program)

RSVP: CivilCourtsChairs@nywba.org

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

* If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/Membership to join or renew using our secure online membership form.

Save the Date!

Elder Law and Disabilities Committee Program

"End of Life Care: Wishes, Wants and Needs - The Hospice and Palliative Care Experience"

featuring distinguished speaker

Victoria Assumma

Hospice Care in Westchester and Putnam, Director of Social Work Services; Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW-R); Member, Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW)

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2013

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Newman Ferrara LLP
1250 Broadway, 27th Fl., NYC
(between 31st and 32nd Street)

Cost: No Charge for Women's Bar Members*

RSVP: ElderLawRSVP@nywba.org

Due to space limitations, advance registration is required.

The Committee thanks **Newman Ferrara LLP** for hosting.

***Membership:** If you are not a current member, go to www.nywba.org/membership to join or renew.

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NEW YORK CITY BAR FORUM
"Lifting the Veil: Women's Rights in the Islamic World After the Arab Spring"

There has been a great deal of hope, and some real progress, in the enhancement of gender equality and women's rights in many Muslim majority nations following the surge of freedom and democracy of the Arab Spring. This program will examine those advancements in a historic context and explore the likelihood of their becoming permanent or being negated or even reversed.

Moderator - Robert E. Michael, Esq.

Chair, Subcommittee on Islamic Law of the City Bar Council on International Affairs; Chair, Islamic Law Committee of the American Branch of the International Law Association; Adjunct Professor, Pace University Law School; Managing Member, Robert E. Michael & Associates PLLC

Confirmed Speakers (Panel in formation)

Carole Basri, Esq.

Adjunct Professor, Fordham University Law School; Vice President of the Women's Alliance for a Democratic Iraq; President, Corporate Lawyering Group LLC; Senior Vice President, Balint, Brown & Basri LLC.

Zeina al-Jallad, Esq.

Visiting Scholar and Research Fellow, Columbia Law School Center for Gender and Sexuality Law; admitted to practice law in Palestine.

Sali A. Rakower, Esq.

Senior Fellow of the West Point Center for the Rule of Law and its inaugural Director; formerly associated with White & Case, active in Middle East legal affairs.

Esra Alsulaiman, Esq.

Saudi Arabian lawyer and May 2013 candidate for an LLM Degree in International Law at Pace University Law School.

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, Meeting Hall (2nd Floor), NYC (between Fifth & Sixth Avenues)

Cost: Program is FREE and open to the public.

RSVP: Go to www.nycbar.org for details and to register (click on "Events," "Event Calendar," & "May 8.")

Confirmed Co-Sponsors - New York City Bar: Council on International Affairs, Sex and the Law Committee, and Committee on Women in the Profession; New York Women's Bar Association; International Women's Rights Committee of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York; Muslim Bar Association of New York; and PILnet: The Global Network for Public Interest Law.

New York Women's Bar Association
Working Parents Committee

"Brown Bag Lunch Meeting"

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs **Christine Harman**, **Melanie Chieu** and **Victoria Turchetti**, the Committee will discuss topics of interest to members and make further plans for 2013. All NYWBA members and prospective members are welcome.

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 12:30 p.m.

Place: Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP
 521 Fifth Avenue, 31st fl (at 43rd Street), NYC

RSVP: Email event host **Jacqueline Newman** and Committee Co-Chair **Victoria Turchetti** at WPrsvp@nywba.org.

If you cannot attend but are interested in joining the Committee, send your contact info and any ideas for future programs and events to the Co-Chairs at WPChairs@nywba.org.

The Committee thanks **Jacqueline Newman** and **Berkman Bottger Newman & Rodd, LLP** for hosting.

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We thank our current members for their continued support and involvement, and we look forward to welcoming new and renewing members. Take advantage of our many member benefits - join committees, network, participate in mentoring circles, attend our signature events, and get CLE credits at our innovative and compelling programs at a significantly reduced cost. It's easy to join or renew - go to www.nywba.org/Membership to access our secure online membership form.

Current members should send updated address and contact information to ED@nywba.org. This will help us keep you informed about our programs, events and other benefits of membership.

Newsletter and Advertising Information

Submissions must be sent to the Newsletter Committee by the **10th** of the month for publication in the following month's Newsletter. Please submit articles, announcements, upcoming event programming, photos, committee news, member news and ads to newsletter@nywba.org. Submissions should be proofed and cite-checked, and NYWBA retains the usual editorial discretion to omit or edit all contributions. Please send an email to newsletter@nywba.org if you have questions or are interested in joining the Newsletter Committee.

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