

#### **Thirteenth Annual**

## "What It's Really Like to Practice Law in NYC As a Woman"

Program for Summer Associates ONLY (Not a General Membership Program)

Sponsored by New York Women's Bar Association and New York City Bar

Wednesday, July 19, 2006 6:00 p.m. New York City Bar 42 W. 44th Street (5th and 6th Avenues)

Panel Discussion, Followed by Wine and Cheese Reception

A panel of women lawyers with experience in government, law firms, alternative practices, and in-house law departments will discuss issues that significantly affect women lawyers beginning their legal careers.

RSVP to your Summer Program Coordinator or to NYWBA at summerprogram@nywba.org.

For the latest news and information on programs and events, check NYWBA online at www.nywba.org.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Importance of Community

Incoming President Teresa Schiller gave a version of these remarks at the 2006 Annual Dinner on May 24, 2006:

I am honored, and I hope that my remarks tonight will help you get to know me better as I prepare to serve this community as president. I hope also that I can get to know you better during the year.

June 2006



Teresa Schiller

As we bridge the year between Christina's presidency and my own, I am reminded of another bridge from my past -- a bridge in the Hiroshima Memorial Peace Park in Japan. After college, I lived in Japan for a year, teaching junior high school English, and, like many Americans before me, I traveled to Hiroshima during some free time. I had been away from America for several months, and I missed my family. In the Peace Park, I was walking across a bridge, where, surprisingly, I ran into some Texan relatives -- an aunt and two cousins with whom I had grown up. That coincidental meeting taught me that the world is quite a small place and that a sense of community -- in that case, my family community -- is important.

Later that year, I was again reminded how my new, international lifestyle was nevertheless connected to my community back home. As part of my weekly schedule in Japan, I was visiting the local school board's office one Friday afternoon. One of the clerks in the office -- who spoke the most English and was therefore the one often designated to communicate important points to me -walked up to me, holding a Japanese newspaper. She pointed to a spot in the paper and said gravely, "Ms. Schiller, your town blew up." It turned out that my small Texas hometown of 13,500 people had made the Japanese papers because of a natural gas explosion on its outskirts, which caused millions of dollars in damage and registered significantly on a nearby Richter scale. Of course, not only was something "lost in translation," but the hometown telephone lines were down. As a result, there were some nervous moments until I was able to verify that my family was okay.

The importance of community in my life continued. When I returned to the United States, I joined a community that spoke another unfamiliar language -- law school. The most rewarding aspect of law school was the opportunity to work with classmates and professors to represent needy clients in the Chicago

# New Board Members and Officers Bring Dedication and Experience to the NYWBA

#### Gretchen Schumann, Treasurer



Gretchen Schumann is an attorney at Cohen Hennessey Bienstock & Rabin P .C., a law firm specializing in complex matrimonial and family law matters.

Ms. Schumann currently serves as the acting Treasurer of the New York Women's Bar

Association and as a delegate to WBASNY's Domestic Violence Committee. Ms. Schumann also serves as Secretary of the New York City Bar Committee on Children and the Law and as Secretary of the New York County Lawyers' Association Matrimonial Law Section. She has lectured for the New York State Bar Association on both procedural and substantive aspects of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act and is a member of the Sanctuary for Families Associates Committee, where last year she served as Co-Chair of the Committee's Fall Benefit to raise funds to meet the legal needs of victims of domestic violence.

Ms. Schumann graduated from Cornell Law School in 2001, where she was awarded the Robert S. Pasley Memorial Prize for scholarship in the law and the arts, classics and humanities. Ms. Schumann received her undergraduate degree from Columbia University in 1998.

#### Sylvia E. Di Pietro, Recording Secretary



Sylvia E. Di Pietro, Esq.'s law practice focuses on wills, trusts and estates, probate, administration and estate litigation; article 81 petitions, contested and uncontested; and real property transactions, condo and coop closings, commercial leasing and litigation. She also represents

authors, agencies and publishers and engages in contract negotiations and drafting of risk management contracts in the television and entertainment industries.

Ms. DiPietro's bar memberships include Chair of the Real Property Section, Co-Chair of the Committee on Condos and Coops of NYCLA's and member of its Trusts and Estate Section and Legislative Committee; member of City Bar's Section on State Courts of Superior Jurisdiction and Committee on the Judiciary; member of NYWBA's Committee on Trusts and Estates; member of the NYSBA's Trusts and Estate and Litigation Sections, the Committee on the Elderly and Disabled and Committee on Estate Litigation; the Columbian Lawyers Association, First Department; and member of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section.

An accomplished public speaker, Ms. DiPietro has appeared on numerous national radio shows concerning retirement and estate planning, relationship conflicts over money, the need for prenuptial agreements, the Boston Catholic Church, cyber adultery, father's rights and custody issues.

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#### President's Message continued from page 1

community. As part of a project for one class relating to domestic violence and the law, I worked with a group of professors, lawyers, and classmates to seek clemency from the governor of Illinois for twelve women who had been convicted of killing their batterers. To represent one of the women, I worked with one of the professors and a classmate. During our investigation, which took us to a public defender's office, to a prison, and to a public housing project, we uncovered documentation showing, among other things, that the woman's batterer had been imprisoned and diagnosed as a criminal sexual psychopath. We used this information to argue successfully for clemency for our client, and she was one of four women who were released. Not only was it rewarding to help this woman, but my relationship with my Chicago classmate bore fruit as well. We both moved to New York, and, coincidentally, years later, Sue Moss and I began serving on the board of the Women's Bar together.

Unlike some of the more senior members of the Women's Bar who have broken ground in the area of gender discrimination in the law, I have been fortunate during my career and am not a victim with a list of abuses to recount. Nevertheless, I had one surprising experience along the way. When I finished law school, I served as a judicial clerk, which was a wonderful experience overall and which taught me more about the law than some of my professors. One of my judge's employees --I'll call him John -- was a real character -- a skydiving enthusiast, and a proud member of a boys' club called MOTA -- Men on Top Again. Every year, this employee encouraged the new judicial clerks to go skydiving at a particular company under the supervision of two of his MOTA buddies. I was told by past clerks who had gone skydiving -- all male, no females -- that they jumped tandem with the instructors on their backs and that the whole time they were in the air, the instructors were making sexist comments and talking about MOTA. I wanted to go skydiving, but without the MOTA twist. My choice then was to dive from a lower altitude BY MYSELF after about three hours of instruction. That day of skydiving was one of the longest days of my life. Although I had to get there very early in the morning, I did not have the opportunity to jump until about 4:00 that day, so I waited around all day feeling more and more scared. I literally thought as the day wore on that I was going to die. But I was bound and determined to persevere. Ultimately, I made the jump. Believe me, it was not pretty, and it was not "by the book," but my parachute opened, and I landed in one piece. After I got back to the hangar, I ran into one of John's MOTA compadres. He was very courteous and friendly. He explained that my jump had been so delayed because all of the planes had been needed for a group of skydiving Elvises who were entertaining in a nearby town's parade. He also said that if I had introduced myself to him earlier, he would have moved me far up in line. As I was walking away -- kicking myself for having avoided this guy -- he called out to me with a smirk on his face, "Tell John that you're now an honorary member of MOTA." I was offended, of course, but I felt better about having gone it alone earlier in the day, without this guy literally on my back for a tandem jump. That was one situation in which I did not regret having missed out on the opportunity to get to know someone better. Continued on page 6

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#### Cassandra Porter, Member of the Board

Ms. Porter is currently the assistant managing attorney at Kaye Scholer LLP. She graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 2004, from Pratt Institute (Masters in Science) in 1999 and from Hunter College (BA, cum laude) in 1996 and is admitted to practice in the States of New York and New Jersey, as well as the Southern, Eastern, and Northern Districts of New York and the District of New Jersey.

Ms. Porter has expressed her belief that public service is an integral part of an individual's duty to society and, in keeping with her beliefs, has volunteered with various charities since grade school. In college, she was an active member of NYPIRG and spent a year as their local board chair. She was also the Lead Poisoning Prevention Project Leader & Speaker. In addition, Ms. Porter volunteered at Mayor Giuliani's Office of Children and with HUD's Ethics Department in Washington, DC. She currently volunteers with the East Harlem Tutorial Program on the weekends and works on several pro bono cases for Kaye Scholer.

Ms. Porter admirably proclaims that her main life goal is to help women help themselves. To this end, she volunteers as a tutor and mentor for a grade school girl. She also chooses to work on domestic violence related matters and recently started working on a pro bono case involving gender bias in wage and labor disputes.

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#### **NOTES ON MEMBERS**

The Association expresses its deepest sympathy to member **Terry Ciccotto** on the death of her aunt, her mother's sister. Condolences may be sent to Theresa M. Ciccotto, 133 Bay Ridge Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11209.

The Association expresses its deepest sympathy to member and past president **Harriet Cohen** on the death of her grandson. Harriet Cohen 's precious and beloved grandson, Benjamin D. Ziegelbaum, age 17, died tragically on April 23rd, the adored son of Dr. Michael and Amy Ziegelbaum (Harriet's daughter), brother of Matthew and Jonathan. Condolences may be sent to 11 Old Colony Lane, Great Neck, NY 11023.

The Association expresses its deepest sympathy to member **Gerry Fifer** on the death of her father, Arthur Fifer. Condolences may be sent to 318 West 100th Street, New York, NY 10025-5372. Contributions may be made to the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research (www.yivo.org), a research center and archive for Jewish cultural history, the Yiddish language, and the American Jewish immigrant experience. Gerry is a past Chair of the Technology and the Internet for Lawyers Committee, and she was instrumental in the establishment of the Association's website.

Congratulations to member **Debra P. Goldberg** who is now Senior Counsel at Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P.

Congratulations to Member **Sue Moss** who recently gave birth to a baby girl, Julia Leigh Weiner, born a beautiful and healthy 6 pounds, 12 ounces and 18 inches long.

#### **Thank You**

Many thanks to the **Honorable Laura E. Drager** and the **Honorable Phyllis Gangel-Jacob** for their years of devoted service to the New York Women's Bar Association. Both will be retiring from the Board of Directors this year. The Association is proud to have had them as leaders.

# **JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Staff Attorney: The Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, Inc. (VLP) is looking for an experienced attorney to work full time at VLP. VLP is a civil legal services pro bono program for low-income people and smaller not-for-profit groups. The Staff Attorney will be responsible for supervising client screening, intake, and case preparation for referral to pro bono attorneys. The Staff Attorney will handle some cases and supervise a variety of "in-house" volunteers, including attorneys, law students, and paralegals. Case types include: bankruptcy, defense, divorce, Family Court matters, unemployment insurance benefits and income REQUIREMENTS: Admission to practice in NY and at least 4 years' experience required. Fluency in Spanish is a plus. Excellent benefits. Salary depends upon experience. VLP is an equal opportunity employer. TO APPLY: Contact Robert Elardo, ManagingAttorney, ECBAVLP, 700 Statler Towers, Buffalo, NY 14202; relardo@wnylc.com

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# An Evening with 2003 Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Shirin Ebadi May 2, 2006

By Denise Scotto, Esq.
International Federation of Women Lawyers, UN Representative
Vice-Chair, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, NY

Thousands of people crowded the airport and waited along the highway to welcome home Dr. Shirin Ebadi when she returned to Iran upon receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. Ebadi recalled this moment recently one evening as she presented her memoirs to a packed hall at Columbia University in New York City. Who is this attractive woman barely taller than the podium wearing western clothes and speaking through an interpreter?

At first glance, Dr. Ebadi says, she appears to be a contradiction. She is a traditional woman living in Iran with her husband and two daughters. She cooks, cleans and looks after her family. She is a Muslim who dresses according to the strict code that requires her and all women to cover herself with a headscarf or a hijab. She is a lawyer, a writer, a university professor, an activist. She is one of the first female judges in Iran, though no longer on the bench since 1979. She is a dissident and like many human rights defenders she has been imprisoned.

Dr. Ebadi is a reflection of Iran, itself a land of contradictions, where there are many discriminatory laws that badly impact upon women. Polygamy is legal and a man is able to divorce a woman without cause, while it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a woman to divorce a man. The testimony of a man is considered credible and accepted in court, as is. When it comes to the testimony of a woman, it is two women who provide the testimony which equals the weight of the man's. If there is a street accident and a man and a woman are injured, the woman will receive half of the amount of damages which will be awarded to a man.

At the same time, 65% of students in Iranian university are girls, resulting in women being more educated than men. There are 13 women members of Parliament with women serving in Parliament for over 40 years, since women acquired the right to vote -- earlier than many of the developed countries. Iranian women are able to drive unlike women in Saudi Arabia and other Islamic societies. Iranian society looks strange to an outsider, Dr. Ebadi concedes, but she stressed how she wrote the story of her life to show that there is not much difference among the lives of women who live in Iran, Europe or America. She repeated that there are many, many women and people like her who are open-minded and fighting.

Dr. Ebadi believes that the judiciary is one of the most coercive arms of the Islamic machinery. The interpretation of Sharia or Islamic law in most cases is erroneous and is based on a political agenda which has paved the way for human rights abuses, particularly against women and those who disagree with Sharia's 'misinterpretation.' She recalled case after case where she appeared in court representing those whose human rights have been violated -- a deceased student who demonstrated against the closing of a newspaper, the parents of

a deceased journalist who died while she was tortured and in custody, two brothers who were imprisoned because they participated in a student protest. Her attempts to secure and present evidence in court were summarily denied. Her attempts to provide clients with a fair trial were frustrated. Her attempts to search for the truth and for justice to prevail were fruitless.

Elections in Iran are not free and fair because Iranians are not free to vote for candidates of their choice. It is only after the Guardian Council pronounces the eligibility of candidates that Iranians can vote (strictly for those who are put forth by the GC). More than 90% of those people who would like to be candidates are deemed 'not eligible' by the GC, therefore the national political machinery does not support legitimate elections.

Describing her deep belief in the rule of law and the democratic process, Dr. Ebadi believes that societal reform in Iran can only be brought about through a democratic system where people have the power to supervise the government. She acknowledges that Iran has a long road ahead to get to that place, but she knows well that the democratic movement is alive and vibrant. Iranians are not satisfied with their situation and they are also sick and tired of the violence and bloodshed during these past 27 years. She feels that the Iranian people are not ready for a revolution; rather, they are willing to endure the length of time it will take for the process of reform to take hold. She cautioned, however, that should the US attack Iran to take democracy there, the Iranian people would not accept the attack on their country and that they would rally behind the government in their defense with every drop of their blood.

In turning to the present state of world affairs and discussing the pressing question of nuclear weapons, Dr. Ebadi said that Iran has the right to nuclear information, power, technology and weapons. All nations ought to have this right which she qualifies 'for peaceful purposes.' In answering a question from a member of the audience, she expressed a sincere hope that all governments realize that no country needs nuclear weaponry be it Iran, the US, Pakistan, India, Korea, or Israel. Rather Dr. Ebadi expressed the challenge that world leaders allocate the resources used to produce nuclear bombs for the betterment of the human condition. With these ideals having been uttered, wild applause echoed in the hall for Dr. Shirin Ebadi, an extraordinary woman.



# **NYWBA Members Enjoy WBASNY Convention**

NYWBA members headed to The Sagamore in Bolton Landing, New York, on May 19-21 for WBASNY's 27th annual convention. The year's theme, "Blazing New Trails," reflected WBASNY's expansive agenda, with achievements over the last year including the addition of a seventeenth chapter, the Mid-York Women's Bar Association.

Our chapter was well-represented, with the following members in attendance: Lisa A. Bauer, Elizabeth A. Bryson, Paula Colbath, Janet Cord, Jo Ann Douglas, Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Myrna Felder, Stephen Hoffman, Clare Hogenauer, Christina Kallas, Eve Markewich, Marjorie A. Martin, Teresa Schiller, Gretchen Beall Schumann, and Lisa A. Sokoloff. We were also pleased to be joined by Janet Cord's son, Brian, and Beth Bryson's mother, Natalie.

We were very proud to support past NYWBA President Beth Bryson, who served as a WBASNY vice president in 2005-06 and was installed at the convention as WBASNY secretary for 2006-07. The other officers who were inducted were Elaine N. Avery (President), Maria T. Cortese (President-Elect), Deborah Weisman Estis (Vice President), Linda Morrone (Vice President), Cynthia L. Schrock (Vice President), and Gail M. Boggio (Treasurer).

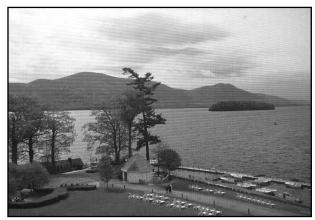
We were also pleased to have members presenting at two of the weekend's CLE seminars. Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin and Stephen Hoffman were speakers in a CLE seminar entitled, "Ethics and Professionalism for Government and Public Service Attorneys." Lisa Sokoloff was both the organizer of and a speaker in a "Labor Law Primer" CLE seminar.

NYWBA Vice President Lisa Bauer, NYWBA Executive Director Christina Kallas, and NYWBA President Teresa Schiller

Several awards were presented over the weekend. NYWBA Member Stephen Hoffman presented the Doris S. Hoffman Medal to Acting Supreme Court Justice Sarah L. Krauss for her work to combat lawyer alcoholism and drug addiction through organizations such as the Lawyer Assistance Trust. Hon. A. Gail Prudenti, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department, received the Joan L. Ellenbogen Founders Award. The Marilyn R. Menge Award was given to Gayle L. Eagan. Camille Siano Enders received the Hanna S. Cohn Pro Bono Award. The Doris S. Hoffman Outstanding New Lawyer Award was given to Lonya Ann Gilbert. Harriet R. Weinberger received the Stephanie Kupferman Juvenile Justice Award. Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo, Associate Judge of the NYS Court of Appeals, was the keynote speaker for the convention, and she and Civil Court Judge Deborah Kaplan served as installing officers at the Installation Dinner on Saturday evening.

The NYWBA members even had a bit of luck at the convention. Janet Cord's son, Brian, won a drawing for a \$10 gift certificate to Uncle Sam's candy store.

Many thanks to Convention Co-Chairs Cynthia Schrock and Camille Siano Enders, as well as the entire Convention Committee, WBASNY Executive Director Linda Chiaverini, Blanca Vega, and all who contributed to making the convention on beautiful Lake George a memorable and special event. Thanks as well to the many sponsors and contributors for their support in helping to underwrite the convention, including Ladas & Perry, Martha E. Gifford, the American Heart Association, Lowenstein Sandler PC, Beth and Natalie Bryson, and Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin.



Beautiful Lake George!

# NYWBAF Fellowship Report by Fordham Sanctuary for Families Fellow

By Jill Waldman

I was privileged enough to receive a fellowship from the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation (NYWBAF) to work at Sanctuary for Families during my second year of law school. Sanctuary for Families is one of New York City's largest and most comprehensive battered women's services organizations. They not only provide legal services, but also run shelters, provide counseling, conduct outreach education, and offer just about every kind of assistance imaginable to women in need.

Before working at Sanctuary for Families, my legal career has been very focused on criminal law. I often found myself advocating for defendants, or ex-offender's rights. I saw this internship at Sanctuary for Families as an opportunity to get a more complete picture of criminal law, and to increase my understanding of victim's experiences and victim's rights. My experience at Sanctuary was all of this and more: From my first day when I helped the executive director prepared a client for trial, I saw, first-hand, the pain and frustration that victims experience in the criminal justice system. Further, I came to understand domestic violence victims' experiences with family court, benefits, services, and the struggles that they experience in their everyday life.

Sanctuary provided me with an incredible opportunity to work directly with clients. I accompanied them to apply for benefits, helped them to prepare affidavits, and even took one woman and her family to tour a college campus so that her teenage son would be inspired to stay in school. I spoke with women about their struggles to remain independent from their abusers, their financial difficulties, their fight to gain immigration status, and their custody battles. Through my work with Sanctuary's clients, I began to understand the enormously difficult and complex struggle that survivors face, in the criminal justice system and beyond.

My work at Sanctuary for Families also provided me with invaluable research and writing experience, particularly on international custody and family law. Most of Sanctuary's clients are recent immigrants, and a good deal of the law they practice involves international custody issues. I wrote many memoranda and legal briefs about different aspects of international family law, such as South African publication divorce, the Hague Convention and the UCCJEA. Notably, I wrote a series of summaries of recent decisions on the Hague Convention as it relates to international parental kidnapping, and exceptions for domestic violence victims. These summaries were used in Fordham University's Annual Domestic Violence Conference. Additionally, one of the conference participants, Judge Cathy Serrette from Maryland, read my summaries and requested to use them in a training that she was conducting for Maryland Judges. I am honored that the NYWBAF allowed me to have such a potentially far-reaching effect on international domestic violence policy.

My experience as a NYWBAF Fellow has had a profound impact on my career. Not only has it deepened my understanding of victim's rights, it has sparked my interest in a wide range of issues, such as immigration and international law. I am incredibly grateful to the New York Women's Bar Association Foundation for this opportunity to discover more about the kind of lawyer I want to be.

#### President's Message continued from page 2

After clerking, I joined a law firm called Clifford Chance in 1996 and have worked there as an associate and most recently as the pro bono coordinator. I was there in 2001 when the World Trade Center disaster occurred -- when, one might say, our town blew up. Like many of you, I wanted to help those who were suffering in our community. One way in which I helped out was to represent the wife and daughter of a man who had died in the Twin Towers. The matter involved complex issues of New York, Canadian, and Israeli law, and as is common in the practice of law for many of us, I was helping to prepare documents and researching issues of law that I had not dealt with before. The clients were ultimately happy with our work, and I felt pleased to have served some members of the tragic 9/11 community.

Now, I am focused on serving our community the New York Women's Bar Association. My goal is for all of us to get to know each other better. I hope that at the end of the year, we will be stronger allies. To this end, for example, I hope to make "cold calls" to inactive Women's Bar members to invite them to events during the year. This will reflect our interest in all of our members, past and present, which in turn furthers the purpose of our organization.

It is important to relate to one another. Who knows what bridge each of us may cross in the future, where a familiar face -- perhaps someone in our midst from the New York Women's Bar Association -- will welcome us? Who knows when one of us or someone we know will need legal assistance, necessitating access to some of the best legal minds in New York because of the relationships forged through our association? Who knows when one of us will need a parachute in the form of a job referral or eleventh-hour CLE credits? Who knows? Let's make an effort this year to be friends as well as colleagues, to be more than just members of the NYWBA. I've told you a bit of my experience. I hope to hear some of your stories as well.

Jeresa Schiller

#### The NYWBA Foundation's Breakfast Speaker Series

will feature

#### Joan Biskupic

Legal Affairs Correspondent of USA Today and Author of Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman On the Court Became Its Most Influential Justice

> Friday, June 9, 2006 The Cornell Club

# JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued from page 3)

Workers' Compensation Attorney: The New York City Law Department seeks an entry level attorney for the Workers' Compensation Division. The position involves representing the City of New York and other related entities before the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. Division attorneys handle matters involving City employees whose claims for benefits are pending before the Workers' Compensation Board, appear at hearings and trials before administrative law judges on a daily basis. They conduct investigations and legal research in preparation for hearings and evaluate the merits of claims, and handle direct and cross-examination of fact witnesses as well as all types of medical witnesses. Trials may involve issues of coverage under the Workers' Compensation Law, timely claim filing, medical disability, need for treatment and entitlement to wage replacement. Attorneys research and write appeals to the Commissioners of the Workers' Compensation Board and participate in oral argument before the Commissioners. The successful candidate should possess excellent oral and written advocacy skills. The ability to manage a large volume of work and the ability to think and respond quickly are essential. TO APPLY: send a cover letter, resume, and transcript (if fewer than seven years out of law school) to the Director of Legal Recruitment, New York City Law Department, 100 Church Street, Room 6-110, New York, New York 10007.

General Counsel at the NYC Office of Labor Relations: Reporting to the First Deputy Commissioner, with very wide latitude in the exercise of independent judgement and decision-making, serves as the agency's General Counsel. Responsible for the overall operation of the Legal Division including supervision of attorneys, liaison with external agencies and formulation of policy recommendations to the Commissioner and First Deputy Commissioner on all issues relating to labor relations. REQUIREMENTS: Admitted to NYS Bar with minimum of six years' professional experience in the practice of law, two of which have been in a supervisory or management capacity; PREFERRED SKILLS: Experience in labor, civil service, employment law or other related fields, nnowledge of public sector collective bargaining law, litigation experience; TO APPLY: please submit two copies of your resume, a letter of interest and two writing samples to: Jean N. Brewer, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Labor Relations, 40 Rector Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10006.

New York City Law Department Juvenile Delinquency Prosecution Attorney: The New York City Law Department seeks attorneys for the Family Court Division's Juvenile Delinquency Prosecution Unit. Attorneys in this unit are assigned delinquency cases that are handled from investigation through trial to disposition. The delinquency staff attorneys appear daily before New York City Family Court Judges. They conduct trials involving juveniles who are charged with violating the New York State Penal Law. They also conduct dispositional hearings with the goals of advancing the needs and best interests of the juveniles and protecting the community. Duties include: investigating cases, interviewing victims and witnesses; making and responding to pre-trial motions;

and conducting arraignments, suppression hearings, trials and dispositional hearings. REQUIREMENTS: Demonstrated commitment to public service; organizational abilities; ability to work as part of a team; excellent interpersonal skills; knowledge of criminal law and evidentiary issues. Knowledge of Family Court procedure is preferred but not a requirement. Salary is commensurate with experience. TO APPLY: please send a cover letter, resume and transcript (if fewer than seven years out of law school) to the Director of Legal Recruitment, New York City Law Department, 100 Church Street, Room 6-110, New York, New York 10007. Admission to the New York State Bar is required. A full description of the Law Department and the Family Court Division can be found at www.nyc.gov/law.

New York City Law Department Interstate Child Support Enforcement Attorney: The New York City Law Department seeks attorneys for the Interstate Child Support Enforcement Unit of the Family Court Division. Attorneys in the unit litigate approximately 40-50 interstate child support cases a week in the New York City Family Courts. An interstate child support staff attorney appears primarily in front of Support Magistrates but also makes occasional appearances before Family Court Judges. Duties include: establishment of paternity and child support orders for custodial parents living outside the state of New York; enforcement and modification of interstate child support orders; communication with interstate child support caseworkers throughout the United States and in a variety of countries; interaction with child support agencies within the State of New York. REQUIREMENTS: Demonstrated exceptional organizational abilities; excellent interpersonal skills; ability to work as part of a team; strong legal analytical skills; knowledge of family law and evidentiary issues. Knowledge of child support litigation is a plus. Salary is commensurate with experience. TO APPLY: please send a cover letter, resume, and transcript (if fewer than seven years out of law school) to the Director of Legal Recruitment, New York City Law Department, 100 Church Street, Room 6-110, New York, New York 10007. Admission to the New York State bar is required. A full description of the Law Department and the Family Court Division can be found at www.nyc.gov/law.

Experienced Labor and Employment Attorneys: The New York City Law Department seeks experienced attorneys for its Labor and Employment Law Division which defends the City in a variety of complex and challenging state and federal actions. We are currently looking for admitted attorneys with at least two years of experience to handle a variety of matters including First Amendment retaliation, gender, race, age and disability discrimination, and civil service law issues. Division attorneys appear in court frequently and try cases in both federal and state court. Experience in labor and employment litigation is strongly preferred. TO APPLY: send a cover letter, resume, transcript (if fewer than seven years out of law school), two writing samples and a list of three references to the Director of Legal Recruitment, New York City Law Department, 100 Church Street, Room 6-110, New York, New York 10007. Admission to the New York State and federal bar is required. A full description of the Law Department and the Labor and Employment Law Division can be found at www.nyc.gov/law.

# Newsletter Deadline and Contact Information

Submissions must be sent to the Newsletter Committee by the **10th** of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter. Please email articles, notes on members, committee calendars, and any other announcements to **Diana Ceccacci**, **Esq.**, tel. no. 718-229-4932, email **newsletter@nywba.org**.

#### **NYWBA List Serve**

The NYWBA List Serve provides up-to-the-moment information concerning events, programs, and job announcements through email. Please email us at **info@nywba.org** if you have an announcement you would like to post on the list serve or if you would like to be added to the list serve.

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