

ACBA Sports Law Committee
2010-2011 Year-End Report
Submitted by: Ralph E. Cindrich

I write to advise you of the events of the ACBA Sports Law Committee during the past year as well as our plans for the upcoming year. Before doing so, I would be remiss if I did not mention the passing of one of Pittsburgh's great attorneys and a former member of the Sports Law Committee, Mr. Michael Manzo. Mike died on May 30, 2011. During his career, he represented the Steelers and the WPIAL as a partner with Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney. He also spent decades helping grow the game of lacrosse in the Pittsburgh area. He was well respected by members of the bar, hard working and professional. Mike also volunteered his time as a Board Member for the Neighborhood Legal Service Association and St. Anthony's School. Mike will be missed by many.

2010-2011 served as the inaugural year for the ACBA Sports Law Committee. The goal of the Committee is to apprise the local legal community of the breath and depth of Pittsburgh attorneys experienced in sports law. We conduct regular meetings once a month where we discuss current sports law issues. Additionally, this past April we held a Sports Law Committee Meet & Greet at the Rivers Club. The event was billed as an evening of mingling and networking. Travis Williams, Chief Operating Office of the Pittsburgh Penguins, served as the keynote speaker. Additionally, members of the Sports Committee gave brief remarks concerning their own experiences as practicing sports attorneys. Local law students and attorneys attended the event and it was well received.

As we move forward, the Committee intends on increasing its profile and growing its membership. To that end, we are currently planning a CLE tentatively planned for the Fall of 2011 covering the most relevant, cutting edge sports law topics. Furthermore, the Committee hopes to hold a luncheon with a nationally recognized speaker and continue to serve as a networking platform for its members.