

WOMEN IN THE LAW DIVISION

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ACBA Women in the Law Division Summary of Activities for 2007-2008

The following is a summary of the key activities for the ACBA Women in the Law Division in 2007-2008, with some notes on plans for the coming year.

1. Sent representative to the Hispanic Attorneys Committee Heritage Celebration on Sept. 27, 2007.
2. Supported (both financially and otherwise) the inaugural efforts of the ACBA Minority Collaborative, spear-headed by Council member Nicola Henry-Taylor and others. They held two programs, one in the Fall and one in the Spring, which were very well attended and engendered so much attention and support that the group has been constituted as a committee of the ACBA (the Diversity Collaborative), and which will have its own governance and budget going forward.
3. Supported the Women's Center and Shelter fundraising event, Shop to Stop Domestic Violence, on Nov. 4, 2007, with contributions and attendance by WLD members.
4. Held a Nov. 8, 2007 Salary Negotiations program, jointly organized by the WLD and the YLD, and attended by approximately 75 people. Obtained sponsorship for the event from Special Counsel. Planning a Fall, 2008 program to build on this initial program.
5. Organized, with the Women's Bar Association, receptions for new admittees to the Bar in Nov. 2007 and May 2008. Both very well attended. Will continue with these events in the coming year.
6. Held 2nd annual Holiday Networking Party on Dec. 4, 2007. Good attendance on a rather inclement evening. Plan to repeat this event in Dec. 2008.
7. Contributed \$1150 to the Attorneys Against Hunger Campaign, through a combination of Division funds and individual contributions.
8. Organized an extremely successful (SRO) event for Take Your Children to Work Day on Apr. 24, 2007. Plan to continue with this event in Spring, 2009.
9. The Gender Bias Subcommittee organized two training programs in the Spring of 2008 for judges and magistrates.
10. Organized a team for the Susan Komen Race for the Cure on May 11, 2008, to support research and programs related to breast cancer. Obtained sponsorship from Choice Counsel. Plan to continue with this event in Spring, 2009.
11. Held our Annual Meeting and honored Judge Livingstone Johnson and Judge Cynthia Baldwin on May 14, 2008.
12. Sent representatives to the YLD Community Involvement Fair on May 15, 2008.
13. Assisted in organizing the U.S. Supreme Court Admissions trip on May 19, 2008.

14. Held our Spring Picnic on June 7, 2008 at Idlewild Park. Last year was the first year we tried holding this event targeted at WLD families. This year we charged a fee to attend. Attendance was lower, which could be due either to the charge or to the fact that the event was held outside Pittsburgh. We plan to continue with another similar event in 2009, experimenting with different locations and cost structures to get the right balance of attendance and contributions to the cost.
15. Held an ethics CLE program at Bench-Bar on June 19, 2008, featuring Lauren Rikleen, author of *Ending the Gauntlet*. Provided a copy of her book to each person attending. Used the event as a springboard to distribute the Gender Equality Task Force Report. Obtained sponsorship of a reception following the program from The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. The Bench-Bar CLE is an annual program put together by the WLD.
16. Sponsored, in part, the University of Pittsburgh Law School's Marjorie Matson Day program and the Duquesne University Women's Law Association Awards program.
17. Developed a Women in the Law Division referral list for networking and business referral purposes.
18. Many WLD members were quite actively involved with the ACBA Gender Equality Task Force and working with the ACBA's new Gender Equality Coordinator, who was hired in the Fall of 2007. The Task Force Report was completed in June of 2008 and contained recommendations for programming to implement the best practices developed by the Task Force. The WLD plans to continue to support this initiative in 2008-2009.