

# LAWYERS JOURNAL

## *Pittsburgh Legal Journal* begins uploading legal notices to national, searchable website



To help better promote the legal notices that appear in the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal*, the ACBA has joined forces with [www.mypublicnotices.com](http://www.mypublicnotices.com).

The website [www.mypublicnotices.com](http://www.mypublicnotices.com) is a national website to which participating newspapers across the country upload their legal notices. It is searchable by any keyword or geographic region that you enter. It is also fully searchable and operational on any mobile device, including iPhones, iPads, and Android devices. Most of the legal notices that are published in Pennsylvania are uploaded to this website and have been for the last several years.

As a reminder, legal notices are advertisements placed in newspapers by the government, businesses, and

individuals. They include notice of adoptions, sheriff sales, unclaimed property, and much, much more.

In Pennsylvania, most legal notices are required to be published in two different publications: a legal journal and a newspaper of general circulation. The website [www.mypublicnotices.com](http://www.mypublicnotices.com) accepts legal notice data uploads from both types of papers. Therefore, a person has to only search one website to see if his/her legal notice has been published properly. The bar association felt that uploading the *PLJ's* legal notices to this site would help Allegheny County residents and attorneys to see if their legal notices have been

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## Carlota Böhm appointed to federal bankruptcy bench

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Carlota Böhm

by Tracy Carbasho

Carlota Böhm has spent her entire professional career preparing to serve as a judge in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

After receiving her law degree from Duquesne University in 1979, she began her career by serving as a law clerk to Bankruptcy Judge Bernhard Schaffler. In a bit of irony, she is now occupying the same seat on the bench that was once held by Schaffler.

"I'm exuberated that my peers picked me and it's ironic that I'm now sitting in the chair of the people I've always looked up to," she said. "This is a wonderful bench with a very high intellectual ability."

Chief Judge Thomas Agresti said the Bankruptcy Court is "extremely excited" about Böhm joining the bench. He said she distinguished herself as an attorney and is held in the highest regard by her colleagues because of her legal knowledge, ability, personality, and professionalism.

"Judge Böhm brings with her a profound sense of fairness and compassion, and she can make the tough decisions," he said. "She also understands the practical side of problem solving, which serves any judge well but especially one handling bankruptcy matters."

Prior to being appointed to the bench, Böhm practiced law at Houston Harbaugh for 19 years. She focused on bankruptcy and corporate reorganization.

Before joining Houston Harbaugh, she was a partner for 11 years at Schaffler & Böhm where she specialized in Chapter 11 reorganizations and general bankruptcy cases. The law firm represented her partnership with Schaffler, the bankruptcy judge for whom she had served as a clerk. She had also served as a clerk in the early days of her career for Bankruptcy Judge Joseph Cosetti.

"My entire career has been focused on bankruptcy," said Böhm. "I've been a lawyer for 30 years, and this opportunity to be a judge came at the right time of my career."

Bankruptcy Judge Judith Fitzgerald met Böhm when she was serving as a law clerk. At the time, Fitzgerald was an assistant U.S. attorney representing federal agencies.

"When Carlota was practicing law, we had cases where she represented a party and I represented another party," she recalled. "We were always able to talk through the issues and work out a solution to whatever differences our clients had. Later, she appeared as the trustee or counsel to the trustee in many cases in my court. Now, I'm looking forward to working with her in this new relationship."

Böhm has served as a panel trustee for the Bankruptcy Court for the Western District since 1981. She has also served as a mediator for the Bankruptcy Court and for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Fitzgerald said her new colleague is a welcome addition to the court.

"She has a great disposition and a sense of humor. In addition, she is passionate about bankruptcy law and has always been diligent in carrying out her duties both as a trustee in

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THE FULL TEXT AND/OR HEADNOTES FOR THE CASES BELOW APPEAR IN THE ONLINE, SEARCHABLE PLJ OPINIONS LOCATED AT [WWW.ACBA.ORG](http://WWW.ACBA.ORG).

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## High school diploma as pre-requisite to employment may violate the ADA

by Maria Greco Danaher

On Dec. 2, 2011, the EEOC posted an “informal discussion letter” on its website. The letter was in response to an issue involving individuals who are unable to earn a high school diploma because of certain learning disabilities and who therefore are ineligible for jobs that require a high school education. According to the EEOC, a qualification standard including a high school diploma requirement that screens out individuals on the basis of a disability must be job related and consistent with business necessity, or such standard may violate the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A qualification standard is “job related and consistent with business necessity” if it accurately measures an applicant’s ability to perform the fundamental responsibilities of the job in question. However, that measurement is simply the first of two

steps. Once it is determined that the qualification standard being used to screen out applicants is job related and consistent with business necessity, the employer also must show that an individual who does not meet that standard is unable to perform the essential functions of the job, even with an accommodation.

That means that, for instance, if an employer requires a high school diploma as a baseline for hiring, and that baseline screens out an individual with a learning disability, the employer must fulfill both steps of the process in order to comply with the ADA. Specifically, it first must demonstrate that a high school education is a job related requirement for the particular job, and that the essential functions of the job cannot be effectively performed by someone without a high school diploma. It must then go one step further, and determine whether the individual applicant whose learning

disability kept him/her from obtaining a diploma can perform the essential functions of the job, with or without a reasonable accommodation. If that particular applicant is able to perform the essential functions of the job, despite the inability to meet the qualification (high school diploma), the employer cannot use the lack of diploma to screen out the disabled applicant from the applicant pool.

While this rationale was set forth in an “informal” letter from the EEOC to an employer and does not have the force of law or regulation, it is worthy of notice. While an employer is not required to “prefer” a learning disabled applicant over other applicants with more extensive qualifications, it is clear that the EEOC is informing employers that disabled individuals cannot be excluded from consideration for employment based upon artificial barriers in the form of inflexible qualification standards. ■

### Gender Bias Duty Officers

If you have observed or experienced any form of gender bias, you may contact one of the following members of the Gender Bias Subcommittee of the Women in the Law Division. The duty officers will keep your report confidential and will discuss with you actions available through the subcommittee.

Kimberly Brown .....412-394-2323  
Rhoda Neft .....412-261-2753  
Bernie Puzzuole .....412-338-1129

### Ethics Hotline

The ACBA Professional Ethics Committee “Ethics Hotline” makes available Committee Members to answer ethical questions by telephone on a daily basis.

#### December

Michael M. Lyons .....412-392-2070  
Martin W. Sheerer .....412-781-3100

#### January 2012

Thomas Hollander .....412-922-8499  
James R. Schadel .....412-765-3399  
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## Another Side of Attorney Bernie Tully

In addition to personal injury\* law, Attorney Tully has represented defendants in criminal cases for over 25 years. If you have a client who needs help or has questions on any criminal matter, please feel free to call me.

*All calls/cases are strictly confidential.*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# We can do better. We can do more.



**Howard Schulberg**  
ACBA President

by Howard Schulberg

We have seen a number of surveys in recent months focusing on the relative lack of racial and ethnic diversity in Pittsburgh in general and in our legal community in particular.

An August article in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* concentrated on the lack of diversity in the public sector. It found that only 6 out of 110 prosecutors in the District Attorney's office are African-American (5.5 percent) and 7 out of 84 Allegheny County Public Defenders are African-American (8.3 percent).

In September, a Brookings Institution report examined 2010 census data and found that of the 100 largest metro areas in the United States, only Scranton-Wilkes-Barre had a smaller share of blacks, Hispanics, and Asians than the greater Pittsburgh area which was found to be 87 percent white.

Most recently, figures released by the National Association for Law Placement indicate that Pittsburgh has the lowest percentage of law firm minority partners of the 44 cities represented in the survey. Only 9 of the 534 partners from the reporting firms in Pittsburgh, or 1.69 percent, are minorities. Nationwide, 6.56 percent of partners are minorities. At 8.82 percent, Pittsburgh was also well below the national average of 19.9 percent in terms of the percentage of minority associates, and only one of

the 33 summer associates employed by the reporting firms in Pittsburgh in 2011 was a minority, as compared to 15.19 percent nationally.

Some may quibble with the accuracy of the surveys. The NALP study is based upon firms reporting and is not all inclusive. Statistics can be skewed. We have heard these arguments before. There is no doubt however that Pittsburgh lags behind other major cities in diversity generally, and in the legal profession in particular. All you need to do is take a look around the local legal community. In other words, as lawyers practicing in Pittsburgh, we have to work even harder if we want to make our legal community more diverse.

Why would we want to do that?

There are two main arguments for pursuing diversity in our profession. The moral case for diversity argues that it is the right thing to do. Indifference is not acceptable. We have a moral obligation to continue to work towards social justice. Having a more representative bar is one more step toward achieving social justice. Inviting racially and ethnically diverse groups to the bar is the next step in the growth of the profession. The value that will result cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

The second argument for pursuing diversity does involve dollars and cents. There are several arguments supporting the business case for diversity. First, clients may expect the law firms that service them to make the same commitment to diversity that they have made. As a result, business opportunities may not be available to a firm or business that does not have diversity among its lawyers. Second, we live in a global economy and workplace diversity can be seen as a competitive advantage. Diversity provides firms and organizations with critical cultural competencies that may be necessary to address client problems or to provide access to new clients. Third, diverse, heterogeneous teams promote creativity and innovation. There is great value that comes from differing perspectives. In solving a problem, diverse attorneys will bring different points of view to the table, and as a result, will find the best solution for the client and the organization. Finally, diversity attracts diversity. An organization that is diverse and values diversity will attract not only diverse talent, but the best talent and will

enable that talent to attract and value diverse clients.

Without getting into the merits of any one of these arguments, we should all be able to agree that the legal profession should be at least as varied and diverse as the people it serves. We are proud of the fact that Pittsburgh is culturally diverse. But there is still a need to attract and keep more of a diverse population base. A new age is dawning and we need to meet it head on. Pittsburgh may not yet have experienced the minority population growth that other cities have but it is only a matter of time. The Census Bureau has projected that by 2042 minorities will be the majority, making up more than half the population in the United States. To be ready for these changes, we need to focus on how to make diversity and inclusion a sustainable reality today.

Although many organizations, firms, corporations, non-profits, agencies, bar associations, and law schools in our area, including the ACBA, have taken affirmative steps to pursue diversity, the rate of progress has been disappointingly slow. We can argue, therefore, that although these efforts have been well-intentioned, they have not been comprehensive enough in their design or consistent enough in their application to effect the systemic change that is required

to result in a diversified environment over time. That kind of systemic change requires the direct involvement and genuine, unwavering commitment of an organization's leadership. It has to come from the top down.

The good news is that it is not too late. As a legal community, we need to unite to reaffirm our commitment to making the pursuit of diversity a priority and to take action to ensure that it is achieved. Cooperation and communication between all sectors of the legal community is critical. It will take everyone with an interest in forward progress to put his/her shoulder to the wheel in order to achieve change not only in individual organizations, but in our legal profession and our community as a whole.

We may face barriers in trying to achieve diversity, not the least of which are apathy, inconvenience, and resistance to change, but the bottom line is that the traditional way of doing things does not necessarily result in the attraction and retention of diverse talent, as evidenced by the lack of diversity in our legal community. The traditional way of doing things also may not recognize the need to foster inclusion as a way of supporting diversity and offering opportunities for growth to all, regardless of race or ethnicity.

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# Partner organizations add benefits to ACBA membership

by Susan Jacobs Jablow

To help members access high quality professional services at the best available rates, the Allegheny County Bar Association has established relationships with several partner organizations.

"We try to identify member benefits or services that we believe would be of value to our members," said David Blaner, ACBA Executive Director. "We look for partners willing to help us market these programs to our members."

The partner organizations include PNC Bank, Office Depot, LawPay, bit-x-bit, USI Affinity, the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, and Lexis-Nexis. Each partner offers unique benefits to ACBA members.

"We tried to be selective in developing these relationships," said Blaner.

In some cases, the partner organization simply provides a discounted rate to members, but in other cases, the partner crafts unique products or services specifically for the needs of ACBA members. That is the case with USI Affinity, which offers insurance packages created specifically for ACBA members. Sole practitioners and small firms with 50 or fewer employees often choose to contract with USI Affinity because of the quality, affordability, and accessibility of its insurance programs, and because of the difficulty in finding comparable services for small firms.

"It's very much in need," said Blaner.

Through ongoing relationships with the ACBA, all the partner organizations offer a more personalized approach to members. For example, Blaner noted that bit-x-bit, an e-discovery firm, was chosen for its accessibility.

"They've always been willing to field phone calls and answer questions," he said. The ACBA also invites partner organizations to events throughout the year, where they can interact directly with members and demonstrate their products and services.

PNC is a major sponsor of the annual Bench-Bar Conference and the annual Membership Directory. Other partners support other ACBA programs, including the annual golf tournament, lunches organized by various Sections and Divisions, and even CLE classes.

Below are some of the partner organizations and the services they provide.



AFFINITY

**USI Affinity, Professional Insurance Solutions**

"USI Affinity develops, markets and administers insurance and financial programs that offer unique advantages in coverage, price, and service," said Vice President Sandy Niespodzianski. "We specialize in providing comprehensive insurance programs to association members and have developed unique insurance plans for the ACBA and its members."

USI has partnered with the ACBA for more than five decades.

"We have earned the trust of many ACBA members because our experience, integrity, and excellence stand behind everything we do," said Niespodzianski. "We offer a diverse portfolio of insurance programs that we can custom-tailor to meet the unique needs of the ACBA members. We are dedicated to satisfying the complete insurance needs of the ACBA members, while delivering the most cost-effective business solutions available."



**PNC Wealth Management**

"We offer attorneys a full service, highly professional, efficiently provided, and completely integrated financial services experience, subject to the highest duty of loyalty and care," said Thomas E. Crowley, senior vice president and team director for PNC Wealth Management. "We also offer specialized services for law firms, including attorney escrow services, custody services, IOLTA accounts, estate bank accounts, workplace banking, investment, and insurance solutions."

PNC has been a partner organization of the ACBA since 2005.

"With over 150 years of providing fiduciary services in the Pittsburgh area, PNC Wealth Management has enjoyed a long and strong relationship with the attorneys of Allegheny County," said Crowley. "Our visibility within the ACBA through our partnership has enabled us to share our story and our approach to managing the financial lives of our clients. It has also allowed us to learn more about the banking and financial needs of the bar, so that we can respond promptly and effectively to those needs."



**bit-x-bit, LLC**

"We provide computer forensic and electronic discovery services to law firms and companies here in Pittsburgh, and also in more than 25 states and 80 cities throughout the United States," said Susan Ardisson, chief executive officer of bit-x-bit. "We investigate allegations of unauthorized use of computers, for example, in cases involving employee harassment, confidentiality breaches, trade secret theft, and alleged criminal conduct."

The ACBA has endorsed bit-x-bit since 2008. In 2010, the ACBA also endorsed bit-x-bit's web-based e-discovery review platform, "Sfile."

"Members who use us find that we have the technical skills to enable them to use electronic evidence effectively and to meet their obligations under the discovery rules," said Ardisson. "But, more than being technical, we can communicate with our clients, with opposing parties, and with judges, in language that they can understand. We provide advice on e-discovery and computer forensic issues, regularly speak at seminars, and organize educational programs for ACBA members. We also offer a discount to ACBA members on the hourly charges associated with our services."

## Office DEPOT

**Office Depot**

"The Office Depot program provides ACBA members with anything they would need in regards to office supplies at very reasonable pricing," said David Lovic, Territory Development Manager for Office Depot.

Office Depot has partnered with the ACBA for the past three and a half years.

The company offers the following benefits to ACBA members: low prices on a large list of core items, easy online ordering, next day delivery, the opportunity for one-stop shopping for furniture, print work, cleaning, break room supplies and more.



**Pennsylvania Bar Institute**

"PBI is the largest CLE provider in Pennsylvania, offering over 300 courses each year," said Richard McCoy, the executive director of PBI. "Our goal is to provide training for lawyers in every area of practice, at every level of sophistication."

PBI has been cosponsoring seminars in Pittsburgh with the ACBA since 1980.

"Our faculty members bring years of experience to their presentations," said McCoy. "PBI values our close relationship with the ACBA and its members in recruiting the best faculty members for our seminars, the best authors for our PBI Press books, and in keeping members aware of the wide range of educational services available."

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The ACBA/LexisNexis partnership has been a successful 15-year relationship beginning in 1997.

"By partnering with the ACBA, LexisNexis is able to reach bar members in order to provide premium products and solutions at a discounted price. We are also able to demonstrate our thought-leadership by conducting seminars about relevant topics that bring value to legal professionals. Consulting with the ACBA leadership has resulted in constructive feedback about our products and services, and has also provided innovative suggestions that have influenced our activities over the years. We believe our partnership has truly been a win-win experience for both the ACBA and LexisNexis," said St. Felix. ■



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# Employee with pregnancy-related illness entitled only to same leave as other employees

by Maria Greco Danaher

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA) requires employers to treat pregnant employees in the same manner as other employees who are not pregnant, but who are similarly situated in their ability or non-ability to work. That means that under the PDA, a woman who is unable to work because of pregnancy-related illness is entitled to sick leave or benefits only on the same basis as employees who are unable to work for other reasons. Based on that rationale, a part-time salesperson recently was unable to convince the Tenth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that she was denied leave and later fired on the basis of her pregnancy. *Anderson v. The Cato Corporation*, Tenth Cir., No. 11-3003, Oct. 27, 2011.

In February 2008, Cynthia Anderson began her employment as a part-time sales associate with The Cato Company. After a few months, the company was considering her for a full-time assistant manager position. On April 9, 2008, Anderson discovered that she was pregnant; she informed the company on the following day. A day

later, Anderson asked for “couple of days off” to get some medication for her nausea. According to Anderson, the store manager seemed “okay” with that request. However, when Anderson called on April 15 to inform the store manager that she had been admitted to the hospital and would need additional time off, Anderson was told that she had been terminated from her associate position, but that the store manager would attempt to hold open the assistant manager position for her. Later that week, when Anderson called again, she was told that the assistant manager position had been awarded to another employee.

According to Cato’s records, Anderson’s personnel records indicate a “voluntary termination” because of “complications with pregnancy.” The Recommended for Rehire box on the form was checked as “Yes.” Anderson never sought to be rehired by Cato.

Because she planned to apply for unemployment compensation and public assistance, Anderson requested from Cato a letter setting forth the reasons for her termination. In response, a store manager wrote that Anderson was terminated “due to

pregnancy related illnesses.” The letter went on to explain that Cato’s policies include a provision under which a part time associate who has worked for less than one year is only entitled to 7 days of sick time. Because Anderson took more leave than that to which she was entitled, her employment was terminated.

Anderson filed a legal action under the PDA, arguing that the company’s letter was direct evidence of a violation of that Act. However, the lower court granted Cato’s motion for summary judgment, holding that Cato terminated Anderson’s employment because she was unable to work and was not entitled to leave. That decision was upheld by the Tenth Circuit on Appeal.

The Tenth Circuit first determined that Cato’s written statement regarding the reason for Anderson’s termination was not direct evidence of discrimination. It based that determination on the fact that the letter was not an admission of illegal activity, but was an explanation of the fact that Anderson needed leave to which she indisputably was not entitled. It then went on to say that Anderson failed to proffer any evidence

that Cato’s policy of terminating employees who needed extended leave to which they were not entitled, then offering to hire them back when they were able to work again, was not evenly applied to all employees regardless of whether the employee was pregnant.

Employers should not view this decision as a “free pass” to end the employment of individuals who ask for additional leave time to which they are not entitled under company policies. Because the case was before the court as a PDA claim, and not a claim under the Americans with Disabilities Act or any associated state-law disability statute, it is unclear whether the same rationale would apply if the case had included a claim under the ADA, since various courts have viewed requests for additional leave time as potential requests for reasonable accommodation that should be honored unless they create an “undue hardship” for the company. Such requests therefore should be reviewed on a case by case basis, with an eye toward the ADAAA regulations that were updated in March of this year. ■

# What is next for Spotify Music Service and the future of the music industry?

by Louis Kroeck

Earlier this year Spotify was released to the American public. The service allows users to listen to 15 million different musical works from their computer at no charge. Spotify could be considered the response to the rampant illegal file sharing that has been taking place on services like Napster, Limewire, and Bittorrent for the past ten years. For the time being, the service is really quite incredible. You can listen to almost any song you want, instantly, for free. Spotify also allows you to create playlists, send music to your friends over Facebook, and integrate your existing digital music collection. The service is particularly appealing as it offers more control than similar free internet radio stations such as Pandora while offering the same selection as the paid service iTunes.

Although Spotify is very attractive on the surface, it remains to be seen how this service will prove profitable for copyright holders and record labels. In addition to the free Spotify service available for personal computers, Spotify offers a paid subscription service that can be used on mobile devices. According to a recent report nearly 250,000 people in the U.S. subscribe to Spotify’s paid service. This represents a small portion of the actual U.S. Spotify market.

Spotify’s revenue comes from a combination of user subscriptions, advertisements, and retail partnerships whereby Spotify attempts to sell music. (Spotify has not yet released its music for purchase service in the U.S.) Spotify in turn takes this money and divides it between record companies based on the number of plays coming from their requisite collections. Although the service is popular, there is some question by record executives as to whether or not it is economically viable. According to some estimates, even millions of listens by Spotify users in a month would not result in enough profit for an artist to make a comfortable living.

I see a fundamental flaw with a service that is providing instant access to an enormous amount of on-demand music, free of charge while also trying to derive revenue by selling the very product that is being given away for free.

On November 30, Spotify made an announcement that it is going to allow software developers and media companies to build applications that will be able to pull media from the Spotify network and integrate that music into other services. So far Spotify has announced partnerships with Rolling Stone, Pitchfork Media, Billboard, and Last.fm. Conceivably, these applications will allow Spotify to be seamlessly integrated into websites

and other multimedia experiences. Many experts had speculated that the November 30 announcement would be geared towards Spotify attempting to monetize their service, but for now the service still remains free.

In the future, it is possible that Spotify may limit its free service by creating a limit to the number of songs users may listen to in a month or the number of times a user can listen to a particular song, thereby encouraging more users to sign up for paid service. It is also possible that Spotify may attempt to link its U.S. service to an online music store. The free aspect of Spotify is not likely to be a sustainable business model in the long run. Spotify may be using its free service as a way to get us hooked before pulling the plug.

For musicians, these changes in the way music is being disseminated may have some far ranging implications. Traditionally, musicians focused on securing record deals that would provide them with a large percentage of the gross revenues from the sale of their works. Preferential treatment is often given to popular artists in record deal negotiation as opposed to smaller independent artists. If we move to a post-ownership society where music is streamed from the Internet rather than owned in tangible form, record sales could become non-existent. In this type of scenario musicians will need to pay less attention to the profit

sharing associated with the sale of their works, and they will need to pay more attention to their deals with performance rights organizations such as ASCAP or BMI or collective bargaining associations that make deals with large outfits such as Spotify.

Although the Spotify method of compensating artists might be considered more fair as all artists become equally accessible on Spotify and accounting methods for how much a song has been played will be very accurate, this potential shift in artist compensation may still favor popular artists. Larger artists could be able to strike more favorable deals with performance rights associations, thereby depleting the amount of funds available to smaller artists. Even though Spotify’s agreements are confidential, it has been reported that smaller independent music labels get much worse deals than major labels.

If we move away from a music-ownership model, performance rights associations may become the focal point of the music industry and the traditional record contract could also be thrown out with the bathwater in the process. The future of Spotify and artist compensation for online streaming will depend on Spotify’s ability to prove itself as a viable business rather than just a free jukebox alternative to online piracy. ■

# Young Lawyers Division gives record number of gifts to area children in need



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

by Matt Sober

Unlike retailers that adorn their stores with holly the day after Halloween, one can hardly blame members of the Young Lawyers Division for starting their Christmas preparations early.

Collecting and distributing almost 700 gifts for disadvantaged kids is no small undertaking, after all.

"We met at the beginning of September to sit down and hash out what we'd do," said Jill Beck, co-chair of the YLD Children in Shelter Holiday Parties. "We decided we'd look into serving more shelters and providing more gifts."

That meeting in early September ultimately culminated with the Dec. 5 delivery of toys to 275 kids at 11 shelters in Allegheny County, according to Regina Wilson, the annual project's other co-chair.

"The kids get so excited. We go in, unload the gifts, sing carols. Then we tell them we have a special guest, and Santa comes out," Wilson said, adding that volunteers even take cookies to each stop along the four delivery routes, one downtown, two in the East End and one in McKeesport.

In the three months between that initial meeting in September and the festivities in early December, 641 gift tags were distributed to donors representing virtually every sector of Allegheny County's legal community, including lawyers and staff at private firms, the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and corporate attorneys.

Then, it was up to several volunteer ACBA elves to gather the toys, eventually transforming an oversized closet on the ninth floor of the City-County building into something rivaling Santa's workshop.

"We start collecting in mid-November, and the gifts are taken to the ACBA

office and stored in a very big closet that's spilling over with toys by early December. It's quite a sight," said Beck. "We had ACBA runners who collected the gifts who did an outstanding job."

After the hundreds of gifts were collected, Beck, Wilson, and the other volunteers turned their attention to the daunting task of sorting and wrapping them.

"This year, we did ask the shelters to give us some suggestions. I think that was helpful in sorting the gifts," Beck said, explaining that she and Wilson did their best to ensure that each child received at least two age-appropriate presents.

"We probably had about 50 to 60 people wrapping the morning of the delivery. We started at 9, and we were finished wrapping by 11:30," said Wilson.

Later that afternoon, several dozen volunteers set out to deliver the gifts and a little holiday cheer. YLD Public Service Committee Chair Jessica Crown was one of about 10 volunteers who delivered gifts for children at shelters along the McKeesport route.

"You get to watch the kids in Santa's lap. They're so excited to see Santa," said Crown. "And if we have time, we'll hang out and play with the gifts too."

YLD Chair Erin Lucas said the time and effort are well worth it.


"This is our largest, most complicated, and most popular public service project. It offers a direct and tangible benefit to the community by providing gifts and holiday cheer to the hundreds of children living in homeless shelters in the Pittsburgh area," said Lucas, adding that 296 extra gifts were donated to South Hills Interfaith Ministries. "Because this is such a large-scale project, it requires hundreds of volunteers from the ACBA membership to make it a success. We require a lot of hard work from our

Almost 700 gifts were collected by the Young Lawyers Division for its annual Children in Shelter Holiday Parties. The gifts were distributed to area shelters by volunteers, as well as four Santa Clauses. From left to right, David Spear, Co-Chair Regina Wilson, Jeff Pollock, Co-Chair Jill Beck, Joe Froetschel, Jessica Crown, Mike Feeney, and Erin Lucas.


volunteers, but everyone has a wonderful time in the process. Regina and Jill did an absolutely fantastic job chairing this year."

Beck said she's grateful to have the opportunity to participate.

"Being there when Santa walks in and the kids see him, they're so excited. This is Christmas for many of them; this is it. To be able to provide the joy of the holiday season, it makes it all worth it." ■



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FOR A LISTING OF NEW ALLEGHENY COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASES WHICH APPEAR IN THE ONLINE PLJ OPINIONS, PLEASE SEE PAGE 2.

# Students participate in ACBA program



PHOTO BY JENNIFER PULICE

*ACBA President Howard Schulberg (back row far left) and ACBA Public Relations Director Tom Loftus (back row far right) presented the bar association's program, "This is a Joke – Making Fun of Others is Not!" to students at Hartwood Elementary School on December 1.*

## ACBA offers social networking options

by Tracy Carbasho

The ACBA is staying current with the digital age by using social networking to share information and more members are encouraged to jump on the bandwagon.

"We have a presence on Facebook and LinkedIn, but they don't seem to be the most popular forms of interaction with our members yet," said ACBA President Howard Schulberg. "However, we will not lose sight of the fact that our membership covers a very wide range of ages, interests and perspectives," he added. "Some are early adopters, some need a push and some are content with the resources currently available. We strive to accommodate all of our members when it comes to information."

Currently, Facebook is being used by the ACBA, the Young Lawyers Division, the Homer S. Brown Division, and the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. The ACBA has a main LinkedIn group for the association with subgroups available for the YLD, the Women in the Law Division, the Sports Law Committee, the Homer S. Brown Division, and the Legal Technology and E-Discovery Committee.

Erin Rhodes, coordinator of foundation programs and projects for the ACBA, said social networking enables the foundation to communicate with bar members more quickly and efficiently. Using Facebook also gives the foundation the ability to increase its exposure beyond the bar association.

"Bar members who prefer to receive their information via online sources, rather than printed mailings and other methods, appreciate that we have started to use Facebook," she said. "Increased response time is another added benefit. The quicker information is posted online, the quicker bar members can spread the word to their colleagues, thereby

increasing event attendance and program participation."

Rhodes said the ACBA uses social networking primarily to publicize events, such as the annual golf tournament and the Fellows reception. She believes publicizing the events is important because it conveys a message that the foundation wants the members to attend.

"We also use social networking to solicit volunteers for public services activities and outreach events," she said. "In addition, we use it to stay in touch with our pro bono volunteers about upcoming opportunities and trainings. We want to increase our usage on Facebook and we encourage bar members to become regular readers of our website and electronic newsletters, as well."

The YLD is currently working to expand its Facebook and LinkedIn pages in order to reach a larger audience and to include more content. The Division's communications committee is always looking to take advantage of any new social networking opportunities that might benefit the Division and its members.

"Social networking allows for extremely fast information sharing to a large amount of people, including those within our organization, as well as those outside the organization if we choose," said YLD Chair Erin Lucas, a litigation associate at Manion McDonough & Lucas. "The number of YLD members accessing our Facebook and LinkedIn pages is still the minority of our membership."

"That said, I believe over time the YLD's social networking avenues will become more popular and reach a larger portion of our membership," added Lucas. "As of right now, social networking certainly benefits the YLD because it reaches many of our members and also increases the visibility of the Division. People who are not

members may see information about the YLD and become interested in the Division."

In addition to using social networking to advertise upcoming activities, the YLD uses it to post photos taken at various events. Members enjoy accessing photos of themselves and their colleagues.

The Homer S. Brown Division is also taking advantage of having a presence on Facebook.

"Social networking with Facebook is very helpful as an additional source of communication, but it does not make it easier to disseminate information due to a number of members not being on Facebook," said HSB Division Chair Jennifer Arnette, who serves as an assistant district attorney. "The benefits of Facebook are recognized by the Division. However, e-mail remains the number one communication stream to efficiently disseminate information."

The Sports Law Committee, chaired by Ralph Cindrich, is expected to use LinkedIn to market its first continuing legal education seminar, which will be held in 2012. As for now, Cindrich said the relatively new Committee is more focused on building a solid foundation and making people aware of its existence than using social networking.

E-mail seems to be the preferred method of communication among members at this point, although Cindrich said social networking has been discussed at the Committee meetings.

"There are issues with social networking because it's difficult to have one person speak for the Committee," said Cindrich. "It's problematic because each person has his or her own viewpoint and I wouldn't want to be the one to speak on behalf of the Committee if social networking is used for anything other than posting events."

The Legal Technology and E-Discovery Committee is content to have a presence on LinkedIn. Susan Ardisson, who co-chairs the Committee along with Joseph Decker, said there were two primary reasons for establishing the LinkedIn group.

"First, we wanted an informal forum to communicate with members of our Committee in addition to our regular monthly meetings," said Ardisson, who serves as chief executive officer of bit-x-bit, a company that provides electronic discovery and computer forensics consulting services. "Second, we wanted to be able to share information about helpful legal and technology resources more efficiently and quickly than other channels available to us."

"We see it as an opportunity to provide practice advice and mentoring opportunities with members of the Committee," she added. "And last, we hope to build on the Committee's collegiality with this new avenue of communication."

Ardisson said the Committee is grateful to the ACBA and Matthew Doebler, a member of the committee, for setting up the LinkedIn forum.

Doebler, an associate at Pribanic Pribanic & Archinaco, said the Committee wanted to take a modest approach to social networking.

"One-stop shopping was the goal because members didn't want a lot of different accounts," said Doebler. "My objective with technology is to use it to fill a need and not just because it's there. We didn't see a need to use Facebook. We hope to pull people into the professional network of LinkedIn."

Doebler said the Committee's information on LinkedIn falls into two categories. The first includes postings of general interest to members and the other consists of requests for help, such as information that other attorneys might be able to share relevant to legal issues. ■

# Local media relies on ACBA members as a resource

by Tracy Carbasho

When journalists are searching for a legal expert to provide comments for their stories, they know where to turn.

Joyce Gannon, who has been a journalist at the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* since 1988, often contacts the ACBA when she is working on a story that warrants input from a legal expert. She said Tom Loftus, the ACBA's Director of Marketing and Media Relations, is always responsive to her requests by putting her in touch with the appropriate attorney.

"I've been using the ACBA as a resource for as long as Tom has been there. Before that, I really wasn't writing much on the legal community," said Gannon. "In the past year, the *Post-Gazette* started a business legal page once a week, so the ACBA has been a good resource."

Gannon appreciates the information that Loftus sends to the media regarding potential story ideas, especially since he does it in a manner that is not pushy or demanding.

"The bar association is helpful if I'm writing an article about trends in the industry or a current legal issue," she said. "They have a lot of good data and background on who's who in the Pittsburgh legal community."

A major objective for Loftus when he was hired by the ACBA was to improve media relations and to establish the association as the primary source of legal information in Allegheny County. He already knew many of the local reporters from working with them in his previous job as director of corporate communications for a hotel management company.

"From a proactive standpoint, we try to anticipate calls based on what is happening in the news. I also let reporters know that if they are interested in localizing a national story, we can provide resources in almost any area of the law," said Loftus. "For instance, when the real estate market collapse was a national story a few years ago, we let reporters know that our Real Property Section could help."

Likewise, when the Haiti earthquake led to the evacuation of orphans, the ACBA Family Law Section was ready to answer questions. When bankruptcy

was a major story, the Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section Council was available to talk to reporters.

Even when Britney Spears was having personal problems and her father was seeking guardianship of her finances, Loftus informed reporters that he could put them in touch with attorneys who could talk about the legal issues of guardianship.

Most recently, the ACBA has received many calls from reporters asking for the names of attorneys who could talk about the criminal proceedings, possible civil action, and other issues related to the Penn State scandal.

"We receive calls concerning all areas of the law, but calls looking for lawyers who can discuss criminal, civil, bankruptcy, and family law issues are the most common," said Loftus. "I have a list of resources, mainly the chairs and vice chairs of our Sections, Committees, and Divisions to whom I can refer reporters."

"Every year, I speak to the chairs and vice chairs and ask for their help in providing excellent media relations. If they can't help a reporter, I ask them to refer the person to someone on their committee who can help and, most importantly, to ask the reporter what his/her deadline is and then to respond by that deadline. When reporters know we are respectful of their deadlines, they will have confidence in reaching out to us."

Loftus receives an average of 10 to 15 calls per week.

Reporters also visit the ACBA website and read the association's publications to find story ideas and background information on legal issues. One particular section of the website, appropriately called "For the Media," provides legal definitions, contact information for reporters, a fact sheet about the ACBA, press releases, and the latest legal news.

"The fact that journalists turn to the ACBA speaks volumes about us as a credible source of information," said ACBA President Howard Schulberg. "We have knowledgeable members who can speak about a wide range of legal topics. Journalists know the ACBA can provide a quick response with a number of potential resources who have experience and credibility in the area to be addressed."

Schulberg said ACBA members are always willing to speak to the public regarding legal topics, whether the issues are routine or controversial. He stressed that attorneys realize when they are talking to a journalist the ultimate consumer is the public.

"We know the right person to address the desired subject without a journalist having to search on his/her own, so we can be considered a one-stop shop for legal inquiries," said Schulberg.

KDKA-TV has built a solid relationship with the ACBA through not only the KD & You and the Law program, but also through segments on "Pittsburgh Today Live."

"The ACBA is a great resource for us to help educate the public about legal issues that are often confusing and intimidating to people," said Kristine Sorensen, a reporter with KDKA-TV who hosts "Pittsburgh Today Live."

Whitney Hughes, director of the ACBA Lawyer Referral Service, has been appearing as a guest on "Pittsburgh Today Live" since 2006. Her segments, which last between five and 10 minutes depending on the topic, air on the first Tuesday of each month.

The notion of providing the public with information on legal topics via

the KDKA program was spearheaded by Loftus.

"Tom originally came to me with the idea, saying that people don't know about the ACBA and what we offer not just to our members, but also to the public," said Hughes. "The first couple of segments were just letting the public know what the bar association is and how we can help them, if they are faced with a situation they can't handle on their own and are looking for an attorney to provide legal advice or services."

Hughes tailors the segments to cover issues that coincide with the phone calls that are received through the Lawyer Referral Service and issues that are currently in the news. Topics have included everything from hiring a lawyer to understanding consumer issues.

"We've always had really positive feedback. On the days we do the segments, the Lawyer Referral Service gets many follow-up calls," said Hughes. "When we highlight one of the ACBA's free publications, we get flooded with requests for them."

Sorensen said Hughes' approachable demeanor is inviting to viewers, who

Continued on page 10



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## Solicitation for Candidates for 2012/2013

### President-Elect, Treasurer, Governors, and Members of the Judiciary Committee for the Allegheny County Bar Association

The Nominating Committee of the Bar Association is seeking candidates for the positions of President-Elect, Treasurer (two-year term), five (5) Governor positions (three-year terms), and eight (8) Judiciary Committee positions (three-year terms). Terms are to begin on July 1, 2012. **Deadline for submission of all candidate applications is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 27, 2012.**

#### Qualifications:

##### President-Elect

Candidate must be a member of the Bar Association and a current or former member of the Board of Governors of the Bar Association.

##### Treasurer

Candidate must be a member of the Bar Association and have served as a member of the Audit or Finance Committee for at least the year prior to taking office.

##### Governor

Candidate must be a member of the Bar Association and should have a history of active participation in one or more Committees, Divisions, or Sections of the ACBA.

##### Judiciary Committee

Candidate must be a member of the Bar Association and should be actively practicing and appearing before judges of the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas, Appellate Courts and/or Federal Courts.

Anyone desiring to run for the above positions must submit a resume and complete an ACBA Nomination Application Form available on the ACBA website ([www.acba.org](http://www.acba.org)) or contact Janet Dalton, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director at (412) 402-6602 or [jdalton@acba.org](mailto:jdalton@acba.org).

The nomination application and resume should be sent to David A. Blaner, Executive Director, ACBA, 400 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 by 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 27, 2012. Applications with resumes will also be accepted by e-mail at [dblaner@acba.org](mailto:dblaner@acba.org).

Allegheny Lawyers Online is a "clipping" service where subscribers are provided with information, via the web, from the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal* of all keywords (i.e., attorney or client names) they provide. Users only need to supply their keywords once.

The cost for this service is \$4 per month per search term. There is a \$1 discount per search term if a firm has over 200 words that are searched for monthly. Only firms or individuals with subscriptions to the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal* will be able to subscribe to Allegheny Lawyers Online.

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# Allegheny Lawyers Online



**PITTSBURGH LEGAL JOURNAL**  
continued from front cover

published properly. As they have been for the last six years, legal notices from the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal* will still continue to be published on the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal's* own website, located at [http://www.pittsburghlegaljournal.org/public\\_notices](http://www.pittsburghlegaljournal.org/public_notices).

Another way to access all of the information in legal journals across the commonwealth is to visit the (Pennsylvania) Conference of County Legal Journals' website. This website contains a listing to all of the legal journals in Pennsylvania. It is located at: <http://www.palegalads.org/info/PA-legal-Ads.asp>. ■

## STORY IDEAS WANTED

If you have an idea for a story, please contact Joanna Taylor Stone at [jstone@acba.org](mailto:jstone@acba.org) or 412-402-6604.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
continued from page 3

Hiring is not enough. If we view our commitment to diversity as a numbers game only, then progress will be elusive. If we do not have support systems in place to retain and promote diverse attorneys by providing mentoring and opportunities for growth and professional development, if we cannot show these attorneys that they are valued members of our organizations with the same opportunities to succeed as any other attorney, then we have failed before we have begun.

We are not just members of the legal community. We represent many different communities in our roles as lawyers, as solicitors, as office-holders,

as directors of non-profit and for-profit corporations, as officers of companies, and as everyday citizens and volunteers. We have the ability to significantly influence the direction diversity will take in Pittsburgh and we are called upon to do so.

Abraham Lincoln said just prior to writing the first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation, "...I felt that we had reached the end of our rope on the plan of operations we had been pursuing; that we had about played our last card, and must change our tactics, or lose the game." To Lincoln it was clear the old ways would no longer be effective at resolving the challenges they faced. As a legal community in Pittsburgh, it is time for us to change our tactics or we might lose the game. ■

**CARLOTA BÖHM**  
continued from front cover

bankruptcy cases and as an attorney representing clients," said Fitzgerald. "She understands the need to listen to all sides and then decide the issues so the case can move on."

Fitzgerald said new judges must realize they were selected because of their unique qualities and good judgment, so they should feel comfortable acting on their instincts. She also pointed out that fellow judges are ready to assist, when necessary, noting the collegiality of the bankruptcy court.

"It's also important to stay in touch with the local bar so that the concerns of our practitioners can be considered from an administrative perspective and to be sure our processes work for the lawyers who have to follow those procedures," said Fitzgerald. "Joining organizations is crucial to developing contacts and maintaining updates in the law applicable to bankruptcy, so I would suggest joining a couple."

Being active in professional organizations has always been important to Böhm. She has a longstanding relationship with the ACBA, having served on its Board of Governors, as chair of the Judiciary Committee, and as a member of the Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section, the Federal Court Section, and the Hispanic Attorneys Committee.

She also has been a board member for the Neighborhood Legal Services Association and a lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. In addition to serving as a mediator for the federal courts, she has been an arbitrator for the Allegheny County Arbitration Panel. She is a member of the Western Pennsylvania Bankruptcy American Inn of Court.

Böhm is anxious to continue the good work that has been done in the local court. In particular, she praised the judges for their efficiency in handling cases and noted that there is currently no backlog.

"I think serving on the bench will be very rewarding every day. It will be rewarding to maintain the integrity of the system that's already in place," she said. "I've always worked 15 hours a day, so I presume I'll be putting in the same amount of time, but it will be rewarding because I love what I do."

Böhm has thoroughly enjoyed her focus on bankruptcy for the past three decades because it is an interesting field that touches other aspects of the profession, including labor law and family law. She describes the work as being "intellectually stimulating" and she likes making a difference in people's lives.

A native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Böhm considers herself the epitome of the American dream.

"My parents came to the United States from Argentina to give us plenty of opportunities and I've been very lucky," she said. "My biggest achievement has been getting to this point in my career with honor and integrity and being appointed to serve as judge."

Böhm said she is happy with the way her career has progressed and would not do anything differently if she could do it all over. She did not decide to become an attorney, however, until she was a senior in college. Until that time, she had intended to become a physician.

"I have an uncle in Argentina who was a lawyer and now he's a Supreme Court judge. He was always encouraging me to become a lawyer because I like being with people, I like to write, and I have a passion for the law."

Böhm is thankful that her uncle persuaded her to choose the legal profession as a career. She has mentored many attorneys and encouraged them to be persistent, even when their careers might be in a slump.

"I tell them to stick with it because a career in the legal profession is so fulfilling," she said. "For me, I'm so happy I found a career that I love. I have always loved going to work and not everyone can say that." ■

**LOCAL MEDIA**  
continued from page 8

also appreciate how she presents legal issues in an easy-to-understand format.

"The segments are a great fit for 'Pittsburgh Today Live' because they are informative and Whitney is a very professional presenter with good speaking skills and the ability to take complicated issues and make them easy to understand," said Sorensen. "Whitney also makes it easy for us by coming up with her own topics and outlining all of the information in advance. She finds issues that are topical and affect a large number of viewers—things like divorce,

custody, DUI, neighbor issues, and much more."

Loftus said the ACBA has become the primary source of legal information in the county as a result of the willingness by the association's presidents, chairs, co-chairs, and Executive Director David A. Blaner to establish a good rapport with reporters.

"We have built an excellent media relations program, but we are only as good as our last call from a reporter," said Loftus. "If we don't return a call or do not get back to a reporter before his/her deadline, we can lose that contact forever. I greatly appreciate the work of our members who have helped a reporter." ■

## ACBA CAREER SERVICES CENTER

As an added member benefit, the ACBA has partnered with JobTarget, the leading provider of world-class career centers, to provide our members with a state-of-the-art career center.

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# U.S. Supreme Court to hear challenges to health care reform



AFFINITY

The U.S. Supreme Court has announced that it will hear arguments on the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). It is expected that oral arguments will be heard in March 2012 and a decision could be rendered by the summer.

The Court has consolidated three cases, *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* (11-393); *Florida v. Department of Health and Human Services* (11-398); and *Florida, et. al, v. Department of Health and Human Services* (11-400) and will review the following issues:

1. Whether the requirement that all Americans obtain health insurance by 2014 is constitutional (minimum coverage provision of the PPACA);

2. Whether some or all of the law will fail if the individual mandate (1) is struck down (commonly referred to as severability);

3. Whether the Anti-Injunction Act bars some or all of the challenges to the minimum coverage provision; and

4. Whether the expansion of the Medicaid program for the poor and disabled is constitutional.

Recognizing the complexity of the issues, the Court allotted what appears to be a record five and one half hours for oral arguments. It is expected that the oral arguments will be closely monitored as health care reform remains a significant political issue and the Court's decision could have ramifications for the 2012 presidential and congressional elections.

We will continue to follow these cases and will update you with developments. See <http://www.supremecourt.gov/docket/PPACA.aspx> for more information.

For more information or to reach a USI Affinity Benefit Solutions Consultant, call 1-800-327-1550 or visit [benefits.usiaffinity.com](http://benefits.usiaffinity.com). ■

# GUIDELINES FOR UNSOLICITED ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE LAWYERS JOURNAL

Because the editors of the *Lawyers Journal (LJ)* receive many submissions for publication we can accept only a portion of those sent to us. Most often, we decline articles because they either discuss topics we have recently covered or serve as promotional material in the guise of an article.

When submitting an article for consideration, please keep these guidelines in mind:

1. Authors are strongly encouraged to discuss article ideas with the editor and submit an outline or capsule summary before investing time in writing. The *LJ* will not agree to run an article until the editors evaluate the full-text article.
2. Every effort will be made to publish an accepted article; however, the *LJ* reserves the right not to publish an accepted article if the material becomes dated, if there is no space to run the article, or if the editorial board raises any other concern.
3. We publish only articles written exclusively for the *LJ*. We will not consider material that an author has sent to other publications.
4. We rely on the author's integrity in submitting original work. Any material derived from other sources should be clearly identified within the text.
5. We evaluate submissions for their value to our audience, timeliness, and credibility. We do not publish articles that promote the author's company, products, or services.
6. Articles should be no more than 2,500 words. Authors must use endnotes to cite sources.
7. Due to the volume of material we publish, we are unable to provide authors with edited manuscripts or galleys for review.
8. Authors should explain in simple language any technical terms that would be unclear to the general legal audience.
9. Authors should send a hard copy of the article and an electronic version, preferably in MS Word format. Be sure to write the author's name and article title in the document.
10. Write your full name, business affiliation, address, and any pertinent professional designations that should appear in the author's ID. We don't run phone numbers or contact addresses.
11. Articles should be mailed to Jennifer Pulice, Editor, Lawyers Journal, Allegheny County Bar Association, 400 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219; faxed to 412-261-6042; or e-mailed to [jpulice@acba.org](mailto:jpulice@acba.org).
12. Because each issue of the *LJ* is copyrighted by the Allegheny County Bar Association, publications wishing to use an article after it has appeared in our journal must obtain our permission to do so.
13. The *LJ* reserves the right to decline to publish any photograph which has been found to be altered or manipulated.

## Bar Briefs

### News and Notes



Arnold  
Schulberg

organization's Board of Directors.

Babst Calland recently announced the appointment of Arnold Schulberg, Of Counsel, as the National Director from the Michael Late Benedum Chapter of the American Association of Professional Landmen (AAPL) to the national

community at 1712 East Carson Street, Pittsburgh, PA. All of our contact information, including telephone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses will remain the same. You can also visit our website at [www.greystonelaw.com](http://www.greystonelaw.com).



Pollock Begg Komar Glasser LLC will have a new name in 2012 when partner Brian C. Vertz joins the other four partners in the firm's name. Effective Jan. 1, 2012, the downtown-based, family-practice law firm will launch itself as Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC.

### People on the Move

Greystone Legal Associates, P.C. welcomes you to visit us at our new location. We are proud to serve the

### Change in Status

James C. Kuhn, III is temporarily suspended.

## Lawyers' Mart

### APPRAISALS

ANTIQUÉ AUTO APPRAISALS for all vehicles 1900 to 1990. Expert Witness. Certified Appraiser - K. Merusi. 412-731-2878.

### DOCUMENT EXAMINER/ HANDWRITING

J. WRIGHT LEONARD, BCFE, CDE. Certified. Experienced in Federal, State & Local Courts. Testimony in Civil & Criminal Matters. 215-735-4000.

### ECONOMIST/VOC. EXPERT

WM. HOUSTON REED, Ph.D.—25+yrs. of forensic economics & vocational eval. expertise in one report. 1-888-620-8933.

### ESTATE PLANNING

IF YOUR CLIENTS ARE CONSIDERING CHARITABLE GIVING as part of their estate planning The Pittsburgh Presbytery Foundation can provide a means to support

charitable work helping those in need throughout SW Pennsylvania. For more information contact the Foundation at [www.pghpresbytery.org/pghpresbyterianfdn.htm](http://www.pghpresbytery.org/pghpresbyterianfdn.htm) or Rev. Dr. Douglas Portz at 412-323-1400 Ext 318.

### FORENSIC ENGINEERS

ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION, BIOMECHANICS, PRODUCT LIABILITY. Keystone Engineering Consultants, [www.ForensicExp.com](http://www.ForensicExp.com). Call Dave Kassekert, P.E., 412-855-0266.

### PROCESS SERVICE INVESTIGATING

THE IMPOSSIBLE WE DO RIGHT AWAY! MIRACLES TAKE A LITTLE TIME. EMPIRE INVESTIGATION (412) 921-4046. Visit us on our website, [www.empireinv.com](http://www.empireinv.com).

McCoy Enterprises Process Service: Prompt. Accurate. Affordable. 412-915-5058.

## Publicize Your Section and Committee News!

The ACBA Communications Department is eager to promote any special activity or newsworthy event emanating from your Committee or Section of interest to ACBA members, the media, or the general public.

E-mail us at [news@acba.org](mailto:news@acba.org) with the following information:

- ◆ Name and description of the event
- ◆ Date, time, and place of the event
- ◆ Name(s) of the sponsoring Section/Committee(s)
- ◆ Name(s) of speakers and titles of presentations
  - ◆ How many people do you expect to attend?
  - ◆ Name and phone number of a contact person
- ◆ Will there be an admission fee or ticket sales? If so, how much?
  - ◆ Are reservations needed to attend the event?
- ◆ Is there any other information you would like to share with us?

Thank you for your cooperation! ■

Our members are not just raising the bar by  
providing free legal education programs...

*They are the Bar.*



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