Steel Bar book tells powerful story of Pittsburgh lawyers and the making of America

Portion of proceeds from book sales to benefit ACBF Lawyers’ Fund

By Zandy Dudiak

From the Whiskey Rebellion days, when “gangs of drunken farmers” and “relatively sober lawyers” tested the constitutional power and authority of the newly formed republic, through the death of steel and re-emergence of Pittsburgh as a high-tech city, author Ron Schuler in his new book, “The Steel Bar: Pittsburgh Lawyers and the Making of America,” brings local legal history alive through vignettes of the lawyers and issues of the times.

In 2007, Ken Gormley, who was then-ACBA President, and ACBA Executive Director Dave Blaine began brainstorming ways they could preserve the legacy of the bar. With the bar’s history committee, they kicked around the idea of a book focusing on the contributions of lawyers in Allegheny County.

They needed an author. They heard about Ron Schuler, a longtime ACBA member who was researching stories about the bar. While working at Buchanan Ingersoll, Schuler began researching the firm’s roots, which dated to 1850, and became its in-house historian.

Schuler turned a local history book into “a truly national story” by drilling down into “a local habitation and a name,” Hibbitts said, quoting Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

“It puts Pittsburgh on the map,” Hibbitts said. “The book shows us who we’ve been. It’s a call to us to remember who we are. In some respects, it shows what we might become.”

“They needed to raise large amounts of money to keep the corporations running,” Schuler explained. “It was absolutely essential they had a vehicle beyond a partnership.”

The creation of those same corporations placed Pittsburgh lawyers on the forefront of navigating labor and management issues, such as the infamous Homestead steel strike. By 1902, those Pittsburgh corporate lawyers had found their way onto the U.S. Supreme Court, the Ways and Means committee and into service as the U.S. attorney general and solicitor general.

Less lawyers in Pittsburgh are kind of unique in the sense they were among the most influential lawyers at the end of the 19th century,” Schuler said.

The book winds its way through the Civil War and the abolitionist movement, Great Depression, civil rights movement and the emergence of women attorneys in recent decades. Some of the smaller stories in Pittsburgh’s legal history are also told.

The book is available on Amazon, where a preview is available, and through other major book sellers.

“I loved putting it together,” Schuler said. “It was an amazing ride through Pittsburgh history. I hope that comes through in what people get from reading it.”

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Scholarships available to Yale, University of Paris for children of ACBA attorneys

Is your child embarking on a college search? Is he or she considering Yale or Sorbonne University (the University of Paris)? If not, your child should at least consider it because the children of ACBA attorneys – as well as the children of non-member attorneys with a principle office in Allegheny County – are eligible for significant scholarships to these two institutions thanks to the Kennedy T. Friend Scholarship Fund.

The fund was established by Kennedy T. Friend, a distinguished Allegheny County attorney who died in 1928. His will stated that his estate would benefit the children of Allegheny County attorneys who attend either of these institutions. Scholarship applications should be submitted at the same time as applications to the school. For more information or to apply, visit www.ACBF.org/Kennedy-Scholarship-Fund or contact Angelina Lowers, the fund’s fiduciary advisor, at 412-807-3309 or angelina.lowers@pnc.com.

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Members encouraged to attend 50 & 60 Practitioners Award Ceremony

By Lori McMaster

On Thursday, November 21, 2019, we will once again gather at the Duquesne Club for the 50 & 60 Practitioners Award Ceremony honoring our peers in the bar association who have achieved the milestone of practicing law for 50 or 60 years.

I encourage our members to attend this year’s celebration, as it is always among the ACBA’s most enjoyable and inspirational events. The celebration occurs the week before Thanksgiving, so it is particularly fitting that we express our gratitude for these practitioners’ distinguished careers and their community contributions.

My husband Dave McMaster and I are particularly excited about attending the ceremony, because our respective mentors, Marty Gefsky and Bernie Marcus, are among the honorees. I had the good fortune to practice with Bernie Marcus at Marcus & Shapiro from 1988 through 1994 and I learned much from him as an associate in the firm’s litigation practice.

Bernie was a generous mentor and permitted me to take on significant roles as a first and second chair trial attorney. He also accompanied me to Philadelphia when I was a third-year associate to provide guidance and moral support when I argued an appeal before the United States Court of Appeals! Bernie presented the motion for my admission to the Third Circuit and I’m proud that his name appears on my admission certificate. Bernie’s door was always open, and he taught me a great deal about trial strategy and maintaining one’s authenticity in a courtroom. I’ll be forever grateful to Bernie for his guidance, wisdom, and patience.

Marty Gefsky has been my husband Dave’s mentor and friend for over 30 years. Dave noted: “Marty’s unending loyalty to clients and colleagues alike truly set him apart. Any time a problem occurred during a transaction, Marty would be able to get on the phone, call the other side and invariably settle the matter. Early in my career, Marty told me that he would never ask anyone to do anything that he wouldn’t do. There has never been anyone else like him.” The Hon. D. Michael Fisher of the Third Circuit has spent his entire career in service to others. Whether as the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, a member of the State House and State Senate, an Assistant District Attorney, or as a partner at Houston Harbaugh, Judge Fisher has been the epitome of a servant leader.

My husband Dave and I, or Patrick Sherry, you were fortunate enough to practice with or learn from one (or more) of them, please consider taking a moment to call, email or write a note to them and express your gratitude for all they’ve offered to the profession, and to you. We are all better for their contributions. Please join me in congratulating the following individuals on this significant achievement.

50 Year Honorees

Edward J. Abes, Esq.
Raymond N. Baum, Esq.
Daniel W. Cooper, Esq.
Leonard A. Costa, Jr., Esq.
Walter P. DeForest, Esq.
James J. Dodaro, Esq.
Donald P. Eriksen, Esq.
Hon. D. Michael Fisher
Michael D. Fox, Esq.
Robert A. Galanter, Esq.
Marty I. Gefsky, Esq.
Kenneth E. Gray, Esq.

60 Year Honorees

Stanley W. Greenfield, Esq.
Marvin S. Lieber, Esq.
Donald W. Shaffer, Esq.

Patrick Sherry says that he feels “extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to get to know and learn from Judge Fisher during my time at Pitt Law. His experiences as a federal appellate judge and a leader in state government give him a perspective on the law that makes his classes truly unique. His passion for teaching and helping students is evident and includes class trips to the United States Supreme Court, and assisting as the faculty advisor to Pitt Law Moot Court. Judge Fisher serves as a great example for me and other law students of what is possible as a future lawyer and person. He makes Pitt Law a better place.”

Please take a moment to review the list of honorees. If, like my husband Dave and I, or Patrick Sherry, you were fortunate enough to practice with or learn from one (or more) of them, please consider taking a moment to call, email or write a note to them and express your gratitude for all they’ve offered to the profession, and to you. We are all better for their contributions. Please join me in congratulating the following individuals on this significant achievement.

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By Ron Cichowicz

Each year during Hispanic Heritage Month, the ACBA’s Hispanic Attorneys Committee celebrates the cultures and contributions of American citizens of Hispanic descent with an event that features great food, traditional music and the opportunity to bring together Hispanic lawyers, judges, law professors, law students and others in western Pennsylvania.

The gathering is also an occasion to present the El Sol Award, given annually to acknowledge the accomplishments of a member of the local community who, according to criteria, “exemplifies distinguished service to the community at large by being an exemplary advocate and contributing his/her time and talents towards the betterment of the local Hispanic community.”

Hispanic Heritage Month has been celebrated in the United States between September 15 and October 15 since 1988. This year the Hispanic Attorneys Committee held its celebration on October 3 at La Palapa Mexican Kitchen and Mексical Bar on the South Side.

“The celebration is a cornerstone of our committee and the main event for us for the year,” said Committee Chair Vanessa Griffith. “It is a way for us, for the year,” said Committee Chair Vanessa Griffith. “It is a way for us for us as Latinx and Hispanic attorneys to celebrate our heritage, our culture, our community and the opportunity to bring together Hispanics residing here. We want to stay connected to that community as attorneys. The annual celebration enables the committee to act as a bridge between the community at large and the Latino community.”

As part of the festivities, the committee presented the El Sol award, which means “the sun,” to Brent Rondon, manager of Global Business and International Entrepreneurs at Duquesne University’s Small Business Development Center. He is the 12th recipient of the award.

Gilda Arroyo, vice co-chair of the Hispanic Attorneys Committee, opened the award presentation, sharing her personal remembrance of Rondon and how he spoke at one of the first committee meetings she attended. She then introduced Lourdes Sánchez Ridge, a founding member of the committee, who said she has known Rondon for more than 20 years and once served as chairperson of the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

“Brent has helped many Latinos in the Pittsburgh area who were, or are, interested in opening up a business,” Sánchez Ridge said. “He provides a bridge between the Latin American business world and Pittsburgh. He is the ‘go-to guy’ for any business with Latin America or any Latinos here in Pittsburgh wanting to open a new business.”

“Brent has been a pillar of the Latin community for many, many years. This man always has a smile on his face, no matter what day or what circumstances he is facing. He is always trying to help anyone who needs or asks for it. Even when he cannot answer a question or provide direct help, he bends over backwards to find someone who can.”

Rondon’s story is one of accomplishment and inspiration. The day after their wedding, his parents moved to the United States from Peru when his father, a university professor, was awarded a Rockefeller Scholarship to North Dakota State University in Fargo. Rondon and his brother were born there but the family returned to Pittsburgh wanting to open a new business.

Spanish Ridge said. “He provides a bridge between the Latin American business world and Pittsburgh. He is the ‘go-to guy’ for any business with Latin America or any Latinos here in Pittsburgh wanting to open a new business.”

Continued on page 10
Forecasting – A tool for managing financial uncertainty

By Keith Cameron

No matter how much you prepare, some level of uncertainty is inherent in the financial future of your law firm’s business. How your firm addresses this uncertainty makes all the difference.

How do you make decisions regarding the amount of the firm’s fee receipts to include in your 2020 budget, the amount of expenses to include in your budget, the amount your partners should expect as compensation in 2020? How confident are you in those decisions? Do you rely on the current year’s performance plus or minus a little? Do you go with your “gut” and make judgments, or perhaps present those decisions to a group and accept the consensus as the best answer?

I’ve seen and heard of many methods applied, including firms that use different methods depending on the type of decision. This article is about forecasting, which is a decision-making method used to predict future outcomes based on past events and management insight.

The article will describe some of the management challenges in which forecasting could support your decision-making and methods to improve the accuracy of your firm’s forecasting.

Find this page helpful? Want more information and resources to help you run your practice? Check out the ACBA’s Practice Management Center at ACBA.org/PracticeManagement.

Where Can Forecasting Help?

Most firms use some level of forecasting in their decision-making, but fewer implement it as often as they could. Forecasting can enable you to foresee future developments, such as the added profit from hiring a lateral attorney. Its greater potential, however, is to provide the opportunity for you to decide on changes that will improve the future outcome, such as negotiating a more favorable deal with a lateral attorney. So, how do you know if you’re making the most of forecasting procedures? Let’s consider some financial decisions on which forecasting could help you make more informed decisions:

• Prepare a budget for the upcoming year with experience-based predictions of fee receipts and of every type of expense.
• Predict what your partners will earn in compensation for the year, or if each partner’s compensation is a year-end judgment, then predict the amount of the pool for partner compensation.
• If you are changing your current partner compensation method, estimate the probable result for each partner, or the range of possibilities. If you are hiring an associate, preview the firm’s resulting net income from that associate, which can help with deciding salary and initial billing rate.
• Decide whether the next month’s cash availability will be sufficient to fund a partner distribution or pay certain large vendors’ invoices.
• Approximate the reduction in your firm’s annual net income when your timekeepers are averaging 10 fewer hours per month per timekeeper than you budgeted.
• Your partners are hopeful that all timekeepers will increase their billable hours in the fourth quarter – would it be helpful to know if your recent years’ history supports that conclusion?
• You are considering an increase in the percent firm contribution to your employees’ 401(k) plan. How much would that increase the firm’s cost in the initial and second year, and how much would it reduce the partner compensation?
• Predict the amount of the upcoming month’s billing and the amount of the upcoming month’s collections.
• Your fee receipts are lower than budget, June year-to-date, and you want to know the average number of hours’ increase needed for the rest of the year to meet the fee receipts budget.

Improving the Accuracy of Your Forecasts

In some firms, forecasting is used infrequently because previous forecasts were inaccurate. Seldom are forecasts accurate from the start; it takes time to refine them. Fortunately, there are a few fundamentals to follow to improve the accuracy of your forecasting so that it works best for your firm.

Continued on page 10
Pennsylvania Senate Bill No. 320 proposes to add new Chapter 39 to the Pennsylvania Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries Code.

By Mary Jo Corsetti

Pennsylvania Senate Bill No. 320 (formerly Senate Bill 827), proposes to add a new Chapter 39 to the Pennsylvania Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries Code in order to address digital assets in estates and trusts. The Bill was re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee on June 18, 2019, after a second consideration by the Senate Judiciary Committee on the same date. On June 11 roll call, the Bill received a unanimous "Yea" vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee, but was not considered by the House Judiciary Committee prior to the last voting session day. Once passed, it takes effect in 180 days.

The bill proposes new provisions to digital assets in estates and trusts. The changes contained in the bill included the creation of a custodian to look at his or her tuition bills, which a child gives a parent the ability to look at his or her tuition bills, grades, and meal plan. The child is the user. The parent is the Designated Recipient.

Some important changes contained within the Bill are:
• A "catalog of electronic communications," identifies each person that had an electronic communication with a user, the time and date of the same, and the electronic address of such person. An "electronic communication" is any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence transmitted by a wire, radio, electro-magnetic, photo-electronic or photo-optical system that affects interstate or foreign commerce. An email inbox is a catalog of electronic communications.
• An "Account" is an arrangement by a user using an online tool to direct the custodian to disclose or not disclose digital assets, including a catalog of electronic communications, and any digital asset other than the content of the electronic communications, if the personal representative meets certain criteria.

Discourse of the electronic communications themselves is different. Electronic communications are a subset of digital assets and are given greater protection. The custodian must disclose the content of electronic communications only if the user consented or if the court directs disclosure. A custodian shall disclose to a trustee that is an original user of an account, or a digital asset held in trust, including a catalog of electronic communications of the trustee and content of the electronic communications. This makes sense since these are the trustee's own communications.

When the trustee is not the original user, the custodian shall only disclose electronic communications if certain criteria are met.

ALERT: Did your client serve between 2003–2015? Has your client been diagnosed with hearing loss or tinnitus?

Earplugs manufactured by 3M, and distributed to all service members between 2003 and 2015, were defective. Our office is currently reviewing these claims against 3M and would be happy to meet for a free consultation.

Michael Quatrini
Accredited Veterans’ Disability Attorney

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Michael Quatrini
Accredited Veterans’ Disability Attorney

We welcome referrals and honor referral fees.
Bankruptcy Symposium to explore cannabis, implicit bias, new small business reorganization act and more

By Ron Cichowicz

Over more than 30 years, the ACBA’s Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section has developed a well-deserved reputation for providing timely, stimulating discussions on topics of interest through its annual Symposium. This year’s event, held on Friday, Dec. 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Westin Convention Center Hotel downtown, should only add to that reputation through a stellar lineup of topics and presenters.

The Symposium is well attended every year, regularly drawing approximately 200 participants representing attorneys both within and outside the bankruptcy section, with attendees and presenters from Western Pennsylvania and beyond. The Symposium has become the ACBA’s second biggest annual event, behind only the Bench-Bar Conference.

One reason for the Symposium’s success each year is a commitment to provide stimulating plenary and breakout sessions and presenters, who represent a mix of attorneys, judges and non-attorney professionals, all providing their own unique perspectives.

“We’ve gathered some exciting panelists and topics and have drawn some new judges from outside the jurisdiction,” said Keri Ebeck, chair of the Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section and past chair of the Symposium. “This speaks to the attractiveness and reputation of the Symposium and that we provide lots of good topics beyond normal bankruptcy practices.”

Highlights of this year’s Symposium include a plenary session titled “Up in Smoke No Longer? Is Cannabis Ready for Prime Time? Are you Ready for Cannabis?” The Hon. Keith Lundin, retired from the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, is leading the session. Panelists include Steve Chan, senior attorney for the Hoban Law Group; Patrick K. Nightingale, attorney and partner for Cannabis Legal Solutions; and Judge Ashely M. Chan, United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The session plans to examine the challenges presented by the chaotic business, legal and regulatory environment for cannabis and hemp in the United States. The panel will tackle THC, CBD and bankruptcy from several different viewpoints.

“Judge Chan is back from last year,” said Alan Patterson, Symposium chair. “She made a point of remarking how friendly we are in western Pennsylvania. She says this is unique, that everyone gets along.”

“That is one of the really enjoyable features of the Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section of the ACBA, the camaraderie among the membership and the bankruptcy bar in general. Even when we are on opposite sides of an argument, generally everyone gets along. It is amazing how this group including the WDPA judges, the Trustee’s Office, the attorneys and their support staffs and others pull together for projects like the Symposium. These projects could not exist without everyone’s support.”

Another plenary session will explore implicit bias in an engaging and participatory presentation to equip attendees with a deeper understanding of unconscious mental processing, the ways in which implicit associations impact decision-making despite good intentions and what actions can be taken to prevent and respond to the emergence of bias.

Breakout sessions will address a number of additional issues including, of course, various aspects of bankruptcy law, including but not limited to the new SBRA, IRS and tax issues, litigation in bankruptcy and more.

The Symposium offers attendees up to six CLE credits, including at least two covering ethics. The day concludes with the Section’s annual holiday party.

A portion of the revenue generated from attendance fees and sponsorships from local law firms is used to make charitable donations to Neighborhood Legal Services, Attorneys Against Hunger and the Bankruptcy Judges Memorial Scholarship Fund.

For more information on the Symposium or to register, visit ACBA.org.
Attorney office space: Options and considerations

By Gregory H. Teufel

Where to locate a law practice is a very important and often difficult decision. This article is intended to help brainstorm all of the possible options and relevant factors one should consider in deciding where to locate and what type of office space to select. There are many factors and pros and cons one might otherwise fail to consider.

The first issue to consider is where to locate the office geographically. The options are generally downtown, the suburbs or in your home. If it is necessary to appear in court frequently, if the practice has clients that are located downtown or prefer to meet there, if the lawyers in the practice have frequent downtown meetings for other purposes (marketing and bar activities), then downtown may be an attractive option. However, potential countervailing factors are the duration of the commute and the higher average cost of rent and parking.

The suburbs can be an attractive option if it could save commute time and lower cost, if it is sufficiently convenient for client meetings, and trips downtown are not too numerous. Daily use offices and conference rooms at the ACBA and elsewhere can cover the occasional downtown meeting needs at a cost savings overall. Being closer to home for childcare and to attend kids’ events can be a big plus as well. If there are infrequent needs to meet with clients, and those needs can be covered at coffee shops or daily use conference rooms, working from home can be an attractive option for some and save even more on commute time, rent and parking costs. One can still maintain a professional image with a post office box or a virtual office, such that it is not obvious to the world that the practice is based in a home. However, some may find that there are too many distractions at home, it may be difficult to maintain boundaries between work and personal life, and working from home can be isolating, resulting in fewer referrals.

Once the preferred geographic location is determined, then one can decide how much and what type of space is optimal as well as whether to rent or purchase space. All of the needs of the practice should be identified:

- Will there be frequent meetings with clients or others in the office?
- Will there be large amounts of paper files?
- Is solitude or being around other people preferred?
- What are the printing and scanning needs?
- How much space is needed?
- Must the space be Class A (to impress clients) or can it be lower?
- Is it a retail practice or a business-to-business practice?
- Is there space needed for support staff?
- How much parking is needed?
- Are on site conference rooms important?

The options consist of purchasing a building, renting an office, renting space from another law firm/sharing space, working from home/virtual office and workspace sharing. Purchasing can be a good investment over the long-term and allow for more freedom for space customization and expansion, but involves a greater up-front cost. Has more variable costs than renting, and requires long-term commitment. Purchasing and remodeling space can also take away substantial amounts of time from a law practice.

Renting often involves commitment to a multi-year lease. While costs tend to be fixed, the rent tends to rise upon each lease renewal. Rented space may be more difficult to customize and expand, and improvements to the space may be surrendered when the law practice moves. Some landlords are great at resolving issues such as repairs, while others are not.

Renting space from another law firm or sharing space can be an economical option, but can make it more difficult to maintain separate brand identities and be confusing to clients. If the other firm’s practice folds, it can leave the space sharing lawyer in a bind.

The hottest new trend is workspace sharing, and many more options are becoming available. Workspace sharing offers greater flexibility and stability while creating marketing and networking opportunities. Depending on the terms, greater amenities can be attained at a lower cost compared to a standard multi-year lease in a comparable space. However, depending on the design of the shared workspace, shared workspaces may not offer the optimal professional image or sufficient confidentiality.

Careful consideration of all of the relevant factors can help narrow down choices from the dizzying array of options. Happy space hunting.

Greg Teufel has 25 years of commercial litigation and outside general counsel experience. He is founder of Law Office Spaces Mt. Lebanon, a 9,000 sq. ft. work-space sharing building designed for lawyers, and founder of the law firm OGC Law, LLC.
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Peru when the boys were three years old. He grew up in Arequipa and later completed his undergraduate studies in Lima.

He and his brother moved back to the United States, to Harrisburg, before Rondon entered the University of Pittsburgh to earn his master’s degree in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. Dr. Jerome McKinney, who Rondon calls “my professor and friend,” referred him to a position at Duquesne University to manage international business development in small and mid-sized businesses—responsibilities he holds to this day.

“I am in the perfect job,” he said when he received the El Sol award. “I like to help; it is in my spirit. A typical day at work is to receive a person who needs help with business, either opening a business in the U.S. or finding new customers overseas.”

“But I tend to go deeper in the consulting process, finding out how they are doing in other areas, such as the person’s life, family, country of origin or current school their kids attend. Then the light comes, they have needs, and I use my extensive network to connect them with help.”

“I always liked to help. It makes me think that the sum of the parts is better than an individual part. In other words, by helping, you help the common good. Everyone benefits. I also found out that when you help and give, life gives you double back.”

Following the award ceremony, the evening continued with an authentic Mexican buffet and dancing to traditional music provided by DJ Marlon Silva. The event was made possible largely through the support of title sponsor Abogado, a Thomson Reuters product, and sponsors Burns White and Duquesne University.

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Are Your PC and Data Secure?
What Cyber Security Means to Today’s Lawyer
Thursday, Nov. 14 | 9 a.m. | Koppers Building
2 Substantive credits

Pennsylvania Tax Administration and Enforcement
Friday, Nov. 15 | Noon | Rivers Club
1 Substantive credit

Introduction to Cannabis Law and Related Tax Issues
Tuesday, Nov. 19 | Noon | Koppers Building
2 Substantive credits

Ethical Considerations in Family Law Custody Litigation
Wednesday, Nov. 20 | 4 p.m. | Koppers Building
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Parallel Government Investigations:
The Civil Side of a Criminal Investigation
Thursday, Nov. 21 | Noon | Joseph F. Weis, Jr. U.S. Courthouse
1 Substantive, 1 Ethics credits

From Old-School Bigotry to Implicit Bias:
The Science of Racial Disparity
Friday, Nov. 22 | Noon | Koppers Building
CJE approved | 2 Ethics credits

Must-Have Legal Resources that Support and Sustain Small Law Firms
Tuesday, Dec. 3 | Noon | Koppers Building
1 Substantive credit | *This is a Groupcast CLE

Right from the Source: Four New Federal Judges Share Their Likes, Dislikes and Pet Peeves
Tuesday, Dec. 3 | 4 p.m. | Hotel Monaco
1 Substantive credit | *Labor and Employment Law Section Holiday Party to follow

Workers’ Compensation Post-Protz:
Act 111 and Case Law Update
Tuesday, Dec. 3 | 4 p.m. | Allegheny HYP Club
1.5 Substantive credits | *Workers’ Compensation Section Holiday Party to follow

32ND ANNUAL BANKRUPTCY SYMPOSIUM
Friday, December 6 | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh
Up to 6 CLE credits (2 Ethics available)

Labor and Employment Law for the New-Labor and Employment Attorney
Monday, Dec. 9 | Noon | Koppers Building
1 Substantive credit

Live Video Replay CLE Sale
Watch replays of popular CLEs from past year
Monday, Dec. 16 | 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. | Koppers Building
6 Substantive, 6 Ethics credits available

Planning an Exit Strategy for Lawyers of All Ages
Thursday, Dec. 19 | 9 a.m. | Koppers Building
3 Ethics credits

Crisis Management:
A Guide for Effective Preparedness and Response
Friday, Jan. 24 | 8:30 a.m. | Koppers Building
3 Substantive credits

Law Firm Metrics for Strategic Decision-Making Success
Wednesday, Feb. 5 | Noon | Koppers Building
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News and Notes

President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark has announced the publication of the 2018 Annual Report of the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania. The report chronicles the activities and performance of the court in providing access to judicial services throughout Allegheny County. Highlights include descriptions of innovative programs and projects, as well as an overview of the achievements of the various divisions of the court. For close to 50 years, the district has produced this compilation of operational and statistical information to ensure transparency and promote public trust and confidence. The district invites citizens to review reports from www.alleghenycourts.us/annualreports.

People on the Move

Julia Wu has joined Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC, as an Associate in the firm’s Corporate and Real Estate practice groups. She focuses her practice in the areas of corporate, business and real estate law. Wu represents and advises a variety of clients in an array of matters ranging from entity formation and asset protection to exit strategies. She has helped advise privately held businesses in the various stages of acquisition and divestment and has performed due diligence matters in preparation of the investment and sale. She also has experience in reviewing and drafting various types of contracts including non-disclosure agreements, buy-sell agreements, commercial leases, and shareholder agreements.

Kathleen A. Nandan has joined Tucker Arensberg, P.C. as senior counsel. She is a member of the Litigation Group and focuses her practice in the areas of ERISA litigation, commercial litigation, white-collar criminal defense and government investigations and enforcement matters.

Benjamin R. Wright recently joined Babst Calland as an associate in the Construction Group. Mr. Wright has experience in cases involving professional liability claims involving architects and engineers as well as both general contractors and subcontractors. He has handled a wide range of construction disputes and issues for natural gas refineries, schools, churches, parking garages and residential homes, including disputes regarding delay, payment, change orders, differing site conditions, acceleration and inefficiencies. Mr. Wright has represented clients before state and federal courts including Pennsylvania trial level and appellate courts, the Western District of Pennsylvania, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and various jurisdictions in West Virginia on a pro hac vice basis. He has also represented clients in various forms of alternative dispute resolution, including both mediations and arbitrations.

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC has moved to the Union Trust Building, 501 Grant St., Ste. 200, in downtown Pittsburgh.

Marilyn Le Lodico has joined Rothman Gordon. She represents clients in commercial real estate and business transactions, including acquisitions, financings, and commercial leasing. She is also experienced with collection issues and real estate related litigation, including land use and creditor-side bankruptcy matters.

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