



ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Serving the Pittsburgh Legal Community

400 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
www.ACBA.org • 412-261-6161

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Brian Knavish

*Director of Marketing, Media Relations
and Strategic Partnerships*

bknavish@acba.org | 412-402-6620

June 28, 2023

Pittsburgh Attorney Marla Presley Takes Over as Allegheny County Bar Association President July 1

Presley is an Attorney with Jackson Lewis

PITTSBURGH – Pittsburgh attorney **Marla Presley** will officially become the 115th President of the Allegheny County Bar Association – the 10th woman to hold the position – on Saturday, July 1. Her one-year term will end on June 30, 2024.

“The ACBA has been a major part of my career and my life overall for two decades,” Presley said. “I’ve experienced, first-hand, the impact the ACBA can have on an attorney and our region overall. To have the privilege to lead this organization for the next year is an honor that is both exciting and humbling.”

Presley is the Office Managing Principal and the Office Litigation Manager for the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis. She was elected President-Elect of the more than 5,000-member ACBA in 2022 and served in that capacity for the past year. Presley replaces Erica Laughlin, who completes her term on June 30.

“The Pittsburgh Legal Community is in excellent hands with Marla Presley at the helm,” Laughlin said. “Marla is intelligent, dynamic and passionate. She is a tremendous leader who has already taken on numerous key roles in the ACBA during her career, and now I will be proud to call her my President.”

Presley said that helping members engage with the association, along with increasing the association’s membership, are among her top goals as president.

“The ACBA can be such a tremendous resource for any Pittsburgh-area lawyer. I want to help our members engage with their bar association and their fellow attorneys,” she said. “I ultimately hope to increase our membership and, in order to do that, we have to be flexible. The legal profession, just like society overall, is very different than it was a generation ago. We have to help the profession adapt.”

About Marla Presley

Presley is a native of Youngstown, Ohio, and is currently a resident of Pittsburgh’s North Side.

She graduated from Austintown Fitch High School in 1996, then from the University of Mount Union in 2000, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in political science. She then attended the Thomas R. Kline School of Law at Duquesne University where she earned her Juris Doctorate in 2003. While at Duquesne, she was the recipient of the Lynette Norton Award for excellence in trial advocacy.

As the Office Managing Principal and the Litigation Manager of the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis, Presley’s practice focuses on the representation of employers in employment matters, including in discrimination, wage and hour, and class and collection actions. She also spends a significant portion of her time representing institutions of higher learning. Presley has tried cases to verdict in state and federal court and has argued before appellate courts in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. She has been named in Best Lawyers in America, Super Lawyers, and the Legal Intelligencer’s Ones to Watch. She currently co-chairs Jackson Lewis’ women’s ARG and is an elected member of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County. In 2020, Presley received the Duquesne Law Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award.

-more-

ACBA President Marla Presley – Page 2

Throughout her legal career, Presley has been involved with numerous aspects of the ACBA. She's been a member of the Board of Governors, Finance Committee, Labor and Employment Law Section, Managing Partners Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Women in the Law Division, and was elected Chair of the Young Lawyers Division. She was previously named the ACBA's Outstanding Young Lawyer and is a Visionary Fellow of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

Presley also is involved in several community pursuits, including serving as a member of the Children's Trust at Children's Hospital of UPMC and as a volunteer with the Wills for Heroes program.

Outside of her work, Presley is a hockey player, competing on the Pittsburgh Puffins women's ice hockey team.

Additional New Officers: In addition to Presley serving as President, the Allegheny County Bar Association also announced the following officers for 2023-24: **Regina Wilson** will serve as President-Elect; **Joseph Froetschel** will serve as Secretary; and **Keri Ebeck** will serve as Treasurer.

###

About the ACBA

Chartered in 1870 and headquartered in downtown Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Bar Association is a professional organization with more than 5,000 member attorneys, judges, district justices, legal administrators and paralegals.