



ONONDAGA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION **BAR REPORTER**

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CNY Philanthropy Center | 431 East Fayette St. | Syracuse, NY 13202 | Phone: 315-471-2667

50-Year Luncheon Breaks Attendance Records



Photo courtesy of James E. Hughes

On Thursday, September 29th, more than 275 people gathered in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott Syracuse Downtown, the former Hotel Syracuse, to honor the 15 members of the "Class of 1966." Onondaga County Bar Foundation President Stuart J. LaRose, Esq. and Onondaga County Bar Association Executive Director Jeffrey A. Unaitis introduced the honorees and John A. Cirando, Esq. spoke on behalf of the class.

MISSION :

To maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of law, to cultivate social discourse among its members, and to increase its significance in promoting the due administration of Justice.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

OCBA has 50 new law student members! We participated in a networking event for students hosted by the Syracuse University College of Law on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Although I attended law school over thirty years ago, I have vivid memories of those first few days, weeks and months. You probably do as well. The SUCoL students all seemed to be holding up well and enjoying the opportunity to meet with people practicing in the community where they attend law school. As a way of encouraging students to get involved in OCBA at the outset of their careers, we provide complimentary membership. NYSBA President Claire Gutekunst attended, as did Lanessa Owens of the William Herbert Johnson Bar Association and Samantha Millier of the Central New York Women's Bar. Each of us promoted bar membership as an important part of our profession.



We had a strong turnout for the first meeting of OCBA's Community Service Committee Monday, Sept. 26, 2016. At the meeting, there was a wide-ranging thoughtful discussion about ways OCBA can support members' community service activities and become more engaged in the broader community in which we live and practice law. We talked about ways OCBA can collaborate with other professional associations and community organizations to address challenges community members face because of systemic poverty, and lack of employment and educational opportunities. Participating in the discussion was Ed Cuello President of the Upstate Minority Economic Alliance (UMEA) and Dave Kilpatrick a program officer at the Central NY Community Foundation. In addition, we talked about the importance of supporting the growth of civic, cultural and arts organizations because for a community to thrive and grow it has to be a place where people want to live. We discussed ways lawyers might participate in the service activities of community organizations as a way to become more engaged in the life of our community and its members. All of this is the beginning of a planning process and anyone interested is encouraged to participate. **The next Community Service Committee meeting is October 24 at 12:15 at OCBA offices.**

I look forward to seeing you all at **OCBA's 141st Annual Dinner on Thursday, October 27 at the Grand Ballroom at the Syracuse Downtown Marriott (Hotel Syracuse).** We will be celebrating two of our members at the event. Our 2016 Distinguished Lawyer honoree, Susan Horn, is an attorney who has devoted her entire professional life to representing low-income people. And, we will be presenting our prestigious Ruger Award to the Hon. Norman A. Mordue. Register to attend at <http://www.onbar.org/events/141stannualdinner/>. The Hotel's restaurant, 11 Waters, has already become a personally popular lunchtime meeting place with reliably good food from an interesting locally sourced menu. Perhaps I'll see you there too. Or maybe I will see you at our annual **Bridge the Gap CLE on Friday, Oct. 14** where along with Blitman & King's Brian LaClair we will be doing a reprise of our What Every Lawyer Should Know Employment Law training. The daylong program includes sessions on Real Estate Closings, Motion Practice and Ethics. Register to attend at: <http://www.onbar.org/events/cle-20th-annual-bridge-gap/>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Onondaga County Bar Foundation Hosts Annual Fall Favorite

By: Carrie Chantler, Editor



John A. Cirando, Esq. and wife Carol enter Empire Room reception.

A golden anniversary doesn't just happen. Such a milestone is the fruit following the sown seeds of commitment, devotion and respect. And nourished by time, of course. Five decades of time. 50 years.

On Thursday, September 29th, nearly 300 people filled the newly renovated Grand Ballroom of the Marriott Syracuse Downtown to celebrate the distinguished Class of 1966 during the Annual 50-Year Luncheon.

So coveted were seats to this event its venue was upgraded from the gracious Persian Terrace to the 10th floor ballroom to accommodate the hundreds of colleagues, friends and family members who turned out to pay tribute to luncheon honorees.

"I was gratified that so many attorneys came to honor our class, it was overwhelming," said John A. Cirando, of the record-breaking attendance.

Well known for their many accomplishments throughout the course of their esteemed careers, personal contributions by these legal professionals to their community include:

- 8 military veterans – with two receiving medals of commendation for their meritorious service in defense of their country
- 7 Syracuse University College of Law graduates
- 4 former Onondaga County Chief Assistant and Assistant District Attorneys
- The first female justice to serve in the Fifth Judicial District, who is also the first woman appointed as District Court Judge in the Northern District of New York
- A Fulbright Fellow who worked for the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India
- A 35-year Manlius town justice
- An author of historical fiction
- A prep school valedictorian
- A tap dance aficionado
- The timekeeper at Syracuse University basketball and lacrosse games.

The annual luncheon is a high point on the OCBF's calendar and President Stuart J. LaRose updated guests on its recent objectives.

The OCBF, as the philanthropic arm of the bar association, assists legal professionals who find themselves incapacitated or limited by illness or who become indigent. Luncheon proceeds,

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50 Year Luncheon Breaks Attendance Records, 15 Attorneys Recognized (Cont'd from page 3)



combined with generous donations, help fulfill the OCBF mission.

"This year alone, nearly 25 attorneys have taken advantage of confidential one-on-one counseling or our bi-monthly Lawyers Support Group," LaRose said. "Thanks to a five-year, \$50,000 grant from New York State, we have been able to enhance the services we offer."

As black and white photos of the class members flashed across a large screen, OCBA Executive Director Jeff Unaitis joined LaRose in introducing each honoree by sharing highlights from their distinguished careers. Class members also received a plaque recognizing them as an Onondaga County Bar Foundation Fellow.

Cirando, who was the 2013 OCBA Distinguished Lawyer of the Year and is regarded as Syracuse's expert on appellate matters, spoke to the large audience on behalf of his class.

Choosing not to discuss ways in which the law has changed since their admittance to the bar, Cirando instead reminisced. He reminded guests of the news of the day in 1966: The Vietnam War raged abroad as race riots and the Miranda Decision made news back home. Fashions ranged from bell bottoms to the boots meant for walking sported by Nancy Sinatra to the mini skirt at the center of the sartorial appeal in *Peck v. Stone*, 32 A.D. 2d 506.

"The 4th Department reversed the prohibition against attorney Carolyn R. Peck from appearing in Syracuse City Court because she was wearing a dress that was approximately five inches above her knee – a mini skirt. ... I wonder who measured," Cirando quipped.

He revisited the expenses of the time, the cost of a new house (\$14,200), a gallon of gas (32 cents), a Barbie Doll (\$1.67) and the average yearly income (\$6,900) plus 1966 firsts such as the creation of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the launch of Medicare, and the first U.S. spacecraft to orbit the moon – Lunar Orbiter 1.

Cirando warmly remembered the long list of judiciary he and his class spent the last several decades arguing before: Hon. Rocco Regitano, Hon. Robert O'Hara, Hon. Morris Garber, Hon. Ormond Gale, Hon. Al Ornstein and Hon. Jim O'Connor, to name a few.

As the revered attorney concluded his comments and faced his colleagues, which he has done for the last half-century, he left them with an observation.

"One thing about practicing law in Onondaga County is the good relationship we have with each other," Cirando said.

"When I go to the Appellate Courts with my opponent, the Clerk's Office says, 'you must be from Syracuse, because you're together.'"



Special thanks to Mr. Robert E. Gale (at left, with OCBA Executive Director Jeff Unaitis, for a generous donation on behalf of the class.

Who Was and Is William Herbert Johnson?

Introducing the Newest Bar Association in Town

By: Lanessa Owens, Esq., President, WHJ Bar Association

William Herbert Johnson was born in 1875 and was the son of Francis Johnson and Mary Louise Brown-Johnson. Francis Johnson was a transplant from Maryland who relocated to Syracuse to serve as coachman for Congressman Charles Sedgwick. Mary Louse Brown-Johnson was the granddaughter of one of the original settlers of Syracuse. William's birth was just 50 years after Syracuse was incorporated and at the heels of the abolitionist movement when Syracuse was revered nationally for its daring anti-slavery rescues such as the now famous "Jerry Rescue".

University Law School, a historical black college and university (HBCU) located in Washington, D.C., was the only substantial source of legal education for blacks in the United States.

Despite the odds and keen awareness of the racial tension in Syracuse, William wanted to pursue a career in the law profession. After graduating from Boston University, he enlisted in the Army serving under Theodore Roosevelt during the Spanish-American war of 1898. After the war, he returned to Syracuse where he met and married Katherine Simmons, a Canadian transplant, and together they raised four children. Still, William did not give up his dream of becoming a lawyer and landed a job at a law firm as an assistant and that experience solidified his decision to pursue a career in law.

To put things in perspective, it is worth mentioning Syracuse University College of Law (SUCOL) was chartered in 1895, just three years before William's return and was located downtown, mere blocks from William's family home. Simultaneously, for its lack of diversity in its student body, SUCOL was under public pressure from black clergyman. William applied to the law school and was accepted.

As a student, William Herbert Johnson excelled, despite the racial barriers and discrimination he faced. Some of those barriers are recalled by his grandson Thomas Johnson who was quoted when answering a question about his grandfather's recollection of law school, "There was name calling, being denied access to certain areas in the law school,



WHJ Board members listen intently as the Hon. Vanessa E. Bogan addresses the room.

When William was just two years old his father purchased a house at 618 East Washington Street, where four generations of the Johnson family resided until it was demolished as part of the 1963 urban renewal development program and construction of Interstate 81. Now back to 1879, in contrast to the abolitionist movement, the post-Civil War era witnessed erosion of the commitment to racial equality and inclusion in Syracuse. An example of this can be best quoted by French social commentator Alexis De Tocqueville "The prejudice of race appears to be stronger in the states that have abolished slavery than in those where it still exists; and nowhere is it so intolerant as in those states where servitude has never been known."

To give you a general idea of the legal profession back in those days, between 1877 and 1935 Howard

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

To advertise in the Bar Reporter, call the Onondaga County Bar Association at 315.579.2578.

The Editorial Board encourages members to submit articles for publication concerning issues presented in each edition or other issues related to the legal community. Submissions should be sent to OCBA, Attention Bar Reporter or Email cchantler@onbar.org. Editor Emeritus: John A. Cirando, Esq. Editorial Board Members:

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William Herbert Johnson Bar Association

(Cont'd from page 5)

and being denied study aids from the library personnel.”

William persevered despite the obstacles and hostilities he faced on day-to-day basis. Named valedictorian of his class, he echoed his unpleasant experience in the Upstate New York school during his commencement address, even suggesting it may have been easier to start a legal career in the south or west where tensions were lower. To understand the times, it was during this era that blacks were not viewed to have the ability to hold professions that required critical thinking. Most employed black males worked in jobs we'd now describe as blue collar or labor intensive.

During William's era, there were two ways to achieve bar admission in New York State:

- Study for three years in the office of a bar member and obtain a certificate of good character; or
- Undergo character testing.

William was unable to obtain a certificate of good character and was initially denied the opportunity to sit for the bar exam. Eventually, after some pressing, he was allowed to sit for the exam, and passed. However, the state bar's character committee refused to admit a black man, deeming him genetically unfit to practice law. His only option became to study in an office for three years and secure a certificate of good character from a bar member. However, Williams' found no office was willing to hire a black lawyer. He eventually found work as a mail room clerk where he remained for 40 years.

However, William's story is not over, and it is not his legacy. Despite his day job, William remained active in civic matters. He was instrumental in opening previously closed occupations to black Americans, such as law enforcement and fire fighting. He gave free legal advice to his community members, ranging from employment and



Hon. Vanessa E. Bogan and Paula C. Johnson, Esq. visit after the September WHJ board meeting.

business law to domestic matters. He negotiated with landlords and employers to ensure fair treatment and accessibility for black Americans. William served as a "ghost writer" for many briefs that pushed the civil rights agenda that would then be filed by his white counterparts. He and his son Herbert Johnson founded the Dunbar American Legion Post, which still stands today.

William Herbert Johnson was a pioneer as the first black American to graduate from SUCOL. Along with his historical importance to the region, "firsts" seemed to be a trend in his family. His daughter, Dr. Edith Johnson, was the first black podiatrist in Syracuse, and

his grandson was the first black Deputy Commissioner appointed by Syracuse Mayor Thomas Young. In 1994, the law school designated an award in William's honor, referred to as the Johnson-Seeley Award. It is presented to a woman of color in the graduating class for outstanding academic achievement.

It is with his legacy and perseverance in mind that the [William Herbert Johnson Bar Association of Central New York](#) stands confidently and proudly. We practice on his shoulders and are committed to increasing inclusion in the legal profession, diversity in the legal profession, equal opportunities for advancement, and community outreach.



IRA Charitable Donations

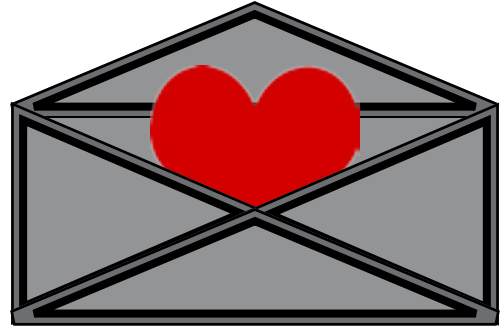
By: Howard A. Port, Esq., CPA

For most people, using IRA dollars for charity is a two-step process. You take money from your IRA, reporting taxable income. Then, you donate it to the charity or charities of your choice, perhaps claiming a tax deduction for the contribution.

The new tax law establishes the permanence of qualified charitable distributions (QCDs), which go directly from IRAs to recipient organizations. They're available only to IRA owners age 70 ½ or older. Such individuals can use QCDs every year now, up to \$100,000 per year.

Once IRA owners reach age 70 ½, they usually must take certain amounts of required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year or pay a 50% penalty on any shortfall. QCDs count toward RMDs.

Example: Joyce Harris, age 72, has a 2016 RMD of \$20,000. If Joyce, who gives \$5,000 to charities each year, makes those donations directly from her IRA, that \$5,000 counts toward her RMD for the year, so she'll only have to withdraw another \$15,000 from her IRA in 2016. She'll report only \$15,000 of taxable income, not \$20,000, but she won't get a tax deduction for the \$5,000 flowing from her IRA to charities.



Why would Joyce do this? There are several situations in which using a QCD could pay off. Perhaps most important, Joyce will be able to satisfy her \$20,000 RMD obligation yet only report \$15,000 of income, thus, reducing what otherwise would be her adjusted gross income (AGI) by \$5,000. A lower AGI, in turn, can offer many benefits throughout your tax return. Have your tax preparer go over your specific situation to see if using an IRA for donations after age 70 ½ would be tax-effective for you.

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Today's Clients Expect More Than Just a Solid Plan

By Thomas Griffith, CAP®, Director of Gift Planning,
Central New York Community Foundation

Last year, a 40-year-old Cayuga County woman met with us to discuss her desire to include charity in her estate plan. This is young for a person to be thinking about legacy, but she did not have family to support and wanted to make sure that her assets would go to the causes important to her. We met with her a few times to identify her charitable goals and talk about options for implementing her plan. She revised her will and created a legacy plan with the Community Foundation. Later she jokingly summed up the experience, "I've never been so excited to die!" While the statement was obviously made with tongue in cheek, she was genuinely overjoyed with the idea that the causes she cared about would be supported by her fund at the Community Foundation forever. We will continue to interact with her over the years to ensure that her evolving charitable wishes are correctly reflected in her legacy plan. We are grateful for her trust in us to steward her fund when it is created, hopefully many decades from now.



Today's clients are expecting more than just a solid plan, they are expecting stewardship. They want to know that their intentions for charitable gifts won't be lost over time. The best advisors provide them with the opportunity to extend their generosity beyond their lifetimes. Their charitable plan can offer more than just money to worthy causes, it can provide a way to be remembered and to have their personal stories live on in our community.

The key to success with any financial or estate plan is implementation. Success or failure of even the best plans often comes down to executing on the details - updating beneficiary designations, changing title of assets, or creating a trust document.

Completing these details is only the beginning for the charitable portions of your clients' plans. What happens if the nonprofit your client loves today is gone tomorrow? What if the trustee of their private foundation passes away? Even the best plans can't anticipate the full range of what the future may bring, but there is a way to protect your clients' interests.

DID YOU KNOW ...

OCBA receives calls every week from clients who are trying to locate documents or files once held by their attorneys, after that attorney has moved, stopped practicing or passed away. If you know where your files will go after you're gone, Contact Membership Coordinator:

**Peggy Walker at 579-2582
or email pwalker@onbar.org**

Legacy Planning with CNYCF *(Cont'd from page 8)*

will know that even 100 years after they are gone, their gift will be actively achieving their goals and their story will live on.

Legacy planning work at the Community Foundation is provided at no cost to your clients. The work of preserving the stories of our donors is a core part of our nonprofit mission. We know that capturing this information makes our community stronger, builds pride in our region and keeps the stories of generous people from dying with them. If you have a client with charitable interests, we hope you will let us be your partner in stewardship.

To learn more about our legacy planning, stewardship, and ways we can work with you and your clients, go to www.5forCNY.org or contact Tom Griffith, Director of Gift Planning at tgriffith@cnycf.org.

Here are some of the ways that the Community Foundation can help set you apart from your competition by delivering on stewardship:

Creating their legacy plan: We strive to help individuals who care about this community to be remembered by it. Your clients can work with us using guided writing exercises and values-based discussions to document their personal giving story and wishes for the future use of their charitable legacy fund, in their own legacy plan.

Making it easy for them to change their plan: Once a legacy plan is created, the will or other beneficiary designations can simply direct funds to the Community Foundation to be used as instructed. Any updates to the legacy plan require no changes to the formal financial or estate plan.

Helping them determine the right type of gift: Legacy planning can be much more than a simple bequest. There are a variety of techniques available for your clients who want to provide for loved ones, reduce taxes, and support worthy causes. We will work with you and your client to find the gift that achieves their goals.

Facilitating family philanthropy: Many times people don't share their giving plan with their family. They often think that the family "just gets it", which is not always the case. The Community Foundation can work with your client to engage their family, passing on the philosophy and values that guide their giving.

Keeping their legacy alive: The Community Foundation has been fulfilling the charitable wishes of people in our community since 1927. Your clients

Menter Rudin & Trivelpiece have 3 Best Lawyers

Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece, P.C. is pleased to announce that **Jeffrey A. Dove**, **Mitchell J. Katz** and **Thomas J. Fucillo** have been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* for 2017. Selection is based on an extensive survey review process of the candidates' peers and is a very respected referral list of attorneys. The firm is delighted that three of its attorneys were named to this premier guide of lawyers.

Mackenzie Hughes Moves to namesake Tower

Mackenzie Hughes LLP will move its business office location and 75 employees to the Galleries office tower at 440 South Warren Street in December 2016.

The 27,000-square foot office space on the Galleries building 4th floor will serve as a key anchor to what will become known as the Mackenzie Hughes Tower. The new space will feature a training room for approximately 40 people, state of the art communication and document management systems, and indoor parking for guests from the Tower's South Salina Street entrance.

Honors to Cohen Compagni Beckman Appler & Knoll

Cohen Compagni Beckman Appler & Knoll, PLLC announces the following attorneys have been recognized as 2016 Upstate New York Super Lawyers: Stephen H. Cohen (Health Care), Marc S. Beckman (Health Care) and Laura L. Spring (Employment and Labor).

Spring was named one of the Top 25 Women Lawyers by Upstate New York Super Lawyers Magazine. In addition, Greg Eriksen has been recognized as a Rising Star (Health Care).

CCB Law also announces the 2016 selection of Stephen H. Cohen, Marc S. Beckman and Andrew M. Knoll in the field of Health Care Law by Best Lawyers of America. Stephen Cohen was again selected in the

field of Employee Benefits and is listed as the lawyer of the year in those fields in 2016 and 2014.

CCB Law is listed as "Top-Listed" in Syracuse, New York in Health Care Law.

Bousquet Holstein has 3 Best Lawyers & Firm Ranking

Bousquet Holstein PLLC proudly announces that Laurence G. Bousquet, Christine Woodcock Dettor, L. Micha Ordway, and Robert K. Weiler will be included in the 23rd Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* 2017.



Bousquet



Dettor



Ordway



Weiler

Bousquet Holstein also received a Metropolitan Tier 1 ranking for 2017 Best Law Firms for its Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law practice areas, and a Metropolitan Tier 3 ranking for its Trusts and Estates Law practice group.

Do you have a Newsmaker?

Send your legal news and press releases to Carrie Chantler at cchantler@onbar.org.

Ted Hanousek of Bousquet Receives Arma Award

Ted Hanousek, Director of Records Management at Bousquet Holstein PLLC for the past seven years, has been awarded the Chapter Leader of the Year Award by the Central New York Chapter of ARMA International (formerly known as the Association of Records Managers and Administrators).

Ted has served on the Central New York ARMA Chapter Board of Directors as Treasurer since 2014, and was recently appointed and served on the grants review panel for the NYS Department of Education, Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF). This grant program provided funds to help local governments establish records management programs and develop new program components.

Thomas Shannon Admitted to College of Trial Lawyers

Lynn Law Firm, LLP attorney Thomas F. Shannon, Esq. has become a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in North America. Mr. Shannon was inducted recently in front of around 800 people at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1950, the College is currently composed of the 5800 best members of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship in the College is extended by invitation only and only after careful investigation.

Michael W. Tyszko Joins Bousquet Holstein PLLC



Bousquet Holstein PLLC is pleased to announce that Michael W. Tyszko has joined the firm as an Associate Attorney and will focus his practice on Business Transactions, Brownfield Tax Incentives, Commercial Litigation, and Mergers and Acquisitions. Michael recently completed a one-year term as law clerk to the Honorable Frederick J. Scullin, Jr. of the U.S. District

Court for the Northern District of New York. Mr. Tyszko is a graduate of Syracuse University College of Law, magna cum laude, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of the Syracuse Law Review and co-chair of the college's pro bono advisory board, among many other accomplishments.

Janet Callahan Admitted to College of Trial Lawyers



An attorney with law firm Hancock Estabrook LLP, Janet D. Callahan, has become a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Callahan is the Managing Partner of Hancock Estabrook.

Sugarman's Sam Vulcano "Lawyer of the Year"

Managing Partner of Sugarman Law Firm, LLP, Sam Vulcano, has been named a "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers. Mr. Vulcano earned the 2016 Syracuse Professional Malpractice Law - Defendants of the Year award based on his representation and defense of design professionals.



Only one lawyer in each practice area in each city is honored with this distinction. He received high ratings from his peers for his abilities, professionalism, and integrity. Sam previously held this honor in 2014.

DID YOU KNOW ...

The CLE Committee is an essential resource for the local law community. This important OCBA panel reviews, approves and generates continuing legal education seminars in a wide variety of legal topics.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, contact:

Carrie Chantler at 579-2578 or email
cchantler@onbar.org

22 Hancock Attorneys Upstate NY Super Lawyers

22 Hancock Estabrook attorneys were selected as "Upstate New York Super Lawyers" for 2016. The include Cora A. Alsante, Daniel B. Berman, Janet D. Callahan, John F. Corcoran, Raymond R. D'Agostino, Marion Hancock Fish, Paul M. Hanrahan, Maureen E. Maney, John T. McCann, Walter L. Meagher, Jr., John L. Murad, Jr., Timothy P. Murphy, Alan J. Pierce, John G. Powers and Doreen A. Simmons.

Seven of these attorneys, Manuel A. Arroyo, Jaime J. Hunsicker, Daniel K. Mannion, James J. O'Shea, Christine M. Verone Juliano, Robert C. Whitaker, Jr. and James P. Youngs, have been selected as "Upstate New York Super Lawyers – Rising Stars" for 2016.

Tully Rinckey Hires New CMO to Drive Growth



Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce it has hired Insiyah Villegas as the firm's new Chief Marketing Officer. With the firm, Ms. Villegas is responsible for developing, enhancing, and overseeing implementation of the firm's marketing, advertising, and public relations campaigns.

Prior to joining Tully Rinckey PLLC, Ms. Villegas acted as the Marketing Director for a renowned speaker's bureau in New York City.

Tully Rinckey Grows Labor and Employment Practice

Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce that Frederick J. Petersen IV Esq. has joined its Labor and Employment Law Practice Group as an associate. At the firm, he will represent private sector employees across New York State and federal employees across the nation facing a range of employment-related legal issues, including discrimination, wage and hour disputes, and compliance issues.



In his legal practice, Mr. Petersen draws from his experience as an assistant public defender, where he represented clients in family court matters including custody, visitation, abuse and neglect matters, and support violations.

Tully Rinckey Expands Federal Employment Practice



Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce that Amelia R. Nicoletti, Esq. has joined its Federal Labor and Employment Law Practice Group. In this role, her primary focus is to aggressively and effectively defend the rights of federal employees against abuses, such as wrongful personnel actions, discrimination and retaliation claims.

In her legal practice, Ms. Nicoletti draws from her vast litigation experience relating to insurance defense matters. She has notable experience in conducting examinations before trial (EBTs), participating in jury selections for civil cases, and has attended preliminary, compliance, and settlement conferences. Over the course of her practice, she has successfully argued over 50 summary judgment motions.

Tully Rinckey Bolsters Family/Matrimonial Law Practice

Tully Rinckey PLLC is pleased to announce that Debra J. Cohn Esq. has joined its Family and Matrimonial Law practice as a senior associate. At the firm, she will represent clients in cases involving divorce, child support, child custody, child visitation, spousal support, and paternity.



Ms. Cohn has formerly represented clients in Family Court and Supreme Court. Through the ownership of her own practice, Ms. Cohn has had the opportunity to become well-versed in an array of topics relating to family and matrimonial law.

Running (and Walking) For Justice

By: Michele Maciejewski

Wednesday night is always a great night to run. Well, actually, I happen to think any day or time is perfect for running. But this particular night was great since I got to run with my friend and we had the privilege of enjoying a summer stroll in the park with other people who care about equal access to justice.



The 2nd Annual Justice Walk/Run 5k, co-sponsored by Hiscock Legal Aid Society and the Volunteer Lawyers Project of Onondaga County, drew around 60 people to Onondaga Lake Park. Yes, it was hot and sunny just like every other evening this summer, but OnVLP Executive Director Sally Curran welcomed everyone (with bottled water) on behalf of the CNY Immigration Collaborative, a joint program between OnVLP and HLAS.

Setting a blistering pace from the start, Bryan Arnault, an Associate at Blitman & King LLP handily came in first to win, claiming a gift certificate to Fleet Feet Sports.

Before the race start, OnVLP's Anas Saleh relayed a wonderful story about an immigrant who sought legal aid services to become a resident. After working with him, this woman was able to gain employment and obtain further education. He credits the collaborative program's success with the personal contact it affords a lawyer and client. She and Saleh maintain a friendship to this day.

Most importantly, the event raised \$5,000 for the CNY Immigration Collaborative and brought awareness to the impact the immigration program has on the people of Central New York.

If you would like to get involved or donate to the project, please contact Sally Curran at scurran@onvlp.org.

All Are Welcome to Join...

Young Lawyers Section

Making the Most of Summer Days

The Young Lawyers Section (YLS) has had a busy and productive summer. On Friday, June 17 YLS hosted a "Night at the Ballpark" to watch the Syracuse Chiefs take on the Columbus Clippers. Thanks to a generous sponsorship by Melvin & Melvin, members were able to view the game from the luxury suite right behind home plate on a sunny, summer evening. Members enjoyed a delicious spread of ballpark foods and fun conversations while watching the game. Afterward, the Chiefs put on a spectacular fireworks show that capped off a wonderful night with friends and colleagues.

During the month of July, the YLS teamed up with the Center for Community Alternatives (CCA) in their annual suit drive with Men's Wearhouse. Donations of gently used men's and women's professional attire directly benefits participants in CCA's employment programs who are transitioning into the workforce. CCA noted an increase in the donations they received this year. In addition, the OCBA collected the names of attorneys who donated and held a drawing for a \$100 voucher to use towards OCBA CLEs. The YLS would like to extend a tremendous thank-you to all who participated in the suit drive. There is no doubt that your donation will benefit our community and workforce. We look forward to making this an annual event, so there will be future opportunities to donate!

The YLS also occasionally participates in trivia nights. These gatherings have largely been designed to allow YLS members to connect with one another and encourage more participation in the Section. Be on the lookout for the next social gathering. If you would like to be on the YLS mailing list to find out more about these events, as well as becoming a member of the YLS, please email Peggy Walker at pwalker@onbar.org.

Lastly, please save the date for the upcoming Bridge the Gap CLE scheduled for Friday, October 14, 2016. This all-day CLE will be held at the CNY Philanthropy Center, with lunch being served. The program is designed for newly/recently admitted attorneys who need to obtain credits. Registration information with a detailed agenda will be distributed soon.



We welcome new members to the YLS for assistance with creating and planning events that will benefit the OCBA and our community, so sign up for our mailing list to find out how you can get involved!

Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP is a progressive New York based law firm serving clients in 11 offices throughout five states. At Hinman, Howard & Kattell, our clients and their goals come first. We value the strong relationships we have with our clients -- some for the better part of a century. We hold ourselves to the highest standard of client service.

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OCBA CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

431 E. Fayette St. | Syracuse, NY 13202 | Phone: 579-2578 | Fax: 471-0705 | cchantler@onbar.org

20th Annual Bridge the Gap

Friday, October 14 | 9am - 4:30 pm

CNY Philanthropy Center, 2nd Floor Ballroom, 431 East Fayette St., Syracuse NY 13202

Vaughn D. Lang, Esq.

Lang Law Offices, General Counsel to the Greater Syracuse Association of Realtors

Real Estate Closings

1.0 MCLE (1.0 Skills)

Loretta Kilpatrick, Esq.

Confidential Law Clerk for State Supreme Court Justice Donald A. Greenwood

Motion Practice

1.5 MCLE (0.5 Professional Practice, 0.5 Practice Management, 0.5 Ethics)

Paula C. Johnson, Esq.

Professor, Syracuse University College of Law, Co-Director of Cold Case Justice Initiative

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

1.0 MCLE (0.5 Ethics, 0.5 Professional Practice)

Mary E. Gasparini, Esq.

Principal Counsel, Attorney Grievance Committee, 5th Judicial District

Ethics for Lawyers

1.0 MCLE (1.0 Ethics)

James M. Williams, Esq.

OCBA President, Staff Attorney, Legal Services of Central New York

Employment Law

1.5 MCLE (1.5 Professional Practice)

Brian J. LaClair, Esq.

Partner, Blitman & King LLP

Under NYS rules this CLE has been APPROVED for both Newly Admitted and Experienced Attorneys

Cost: \$100 Newly Admitted (2015-16), \$120 Member, \$180 Non-Member, \$80 Paralegal, \$40 Lifetime/Agency/Student, \$30 Single Session

20th Annual Bridge the Gap | Friday, October 14th | RSVP by October 12th

Cost: See Above | Register at onbar.org/events-programs/ or by mail (checks payable to OCBA)

Attendee(s) _____ Phone _____

Firm _____ Email _____

Address _____ Billing Zipcode _____

Session(s) _____ Fee _____

Check Enclosed Will bring check to CLE CC Card # _____ Exp. _____

ONONDAGA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION | 431 E. Fayette St. | Syracuse, NY 13202
Phone: 579-2578 | Fax: 471-0705 | cchantler@onbar.org

