

# NEW ROCHELLE BAR ASSOCIATION Newsletter

Winter 2019

[www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



Ronald V. Zezima

Dear Members and Friends:

I wish you a peaceful and prosperous New Year. Since our last quarterly Newsletter, we have had two wonderful first-time events, our First Annual Judges' Night at Juliano's at which we hosted our City, County, Surrogate and Supreme Court judges, and our First Joint Sound Shore Bar Associations Holiday Party, held at the John Jay Mansion in Rye. Event photos are included in this newsletter. I was pleased that so many of you joined us at these great events.

Also, for the first time, we have been allowed the use of New Rochelle City Hall for our monthly two credit CLE presentations. We are very pleased to have a permanent (we hope!) venue, and we thank our member City Councilman Barry Fertel for arranging access for us.

We have more events and interesting CLE presentations coming up in 2019. You can check out the list on our website at [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org). We will top off the spring with another brand-new event; in lieu of our annual picnic, a four hour dinner cruise from New Rochelle to the Statue of Liberty on the "Klondike" on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, our 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Administrative Judge, Justice Kathie Davidson, convened the first of a series of meetings of presidents of all bar associations operating in the

five counties under her jurisdiction. As part of Chief Judge DiFiore's Justice Initiative, Justice Davidson seeks to have a close working relationship between the bar and the court system, and has instructed us to give her feedback on any issues which our members believe should be brought to her attention. In furtherance of this goal, I and the other bar presidents have full access to the supervising judges of each of the parts of the 9<sup>th</sup> JD, including Justices Joan Lefkowitz (Civil Supreme), Barry Warheit (Criminal), Lewis Lubell (Matrimonial), Brandon Sall (Surrogates) and Sam Walker (City Courts). If you practice in any of these courts and have either suggestions for improving the operation of the courts or issues which you feel need to be addressed, please contact me so that I can relay these concerns at the next joint meeting with Justice Davidson and the Supervising Judges on April 29<sup>th</sup>, or sooner if you feel that they require immediate attention.

Lastly, please let your colleagues, associates and friends know that we welcome membership applications from attorneys and operators of law related businesses throughout the metropolitan area. For just \$100.00 per year, you can fulfil all of your CLE requirements and get a free dinner to boot each month, along with opportunities to network with lawyers, judges and related business people such as bankers, title companies and mortgage brokers.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming programs. Happy New Year.

*Ronald V. Zezima*



**Message from Editor**



Artem Djukic

Dear Members,  
 Happy New Year! With the beginning of the New Year, it is time for New Year Resolutions. On my list is to be more organized and timely with my responsibilities. If other's have similar resolutions, and even for those who don't, I remind you to place renewing your NRBA membership at the top of the to do list. A renewal form is attached at the end of the newsletter, simply mail the form in with your check, and once again you will be able to attend the free monthly CLE's (including dinner) offered by our wonderful organization. Additionally, the NRBA is now offering classified placement for office space and job opportunities in our quarterly newsletter to all our current members. We also would like to remind all members to update their contact information on our website NRBAR.org as a directory will be prepared and printed at the beginning of this year for all active members. Lastly, don't forget to check the upcoming events section to mark your 2019 calendars with all the wonderful future events.

Sincerely,

*Artem Djukic*



**Holiday Dinner Party**

This year's Annual Holiday Party was a joint party between the New Rochelle Bar Association, Mamaroneck, Harrison and Larchmont Bar Association and Port Chester Bar Association. It

was held at the wonderful Jay Heritage Center (A National Historic Landmark ) located at the Jay Estate, 210 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY 10580. The event was a huge success, and was sold out.





From left to right: Kathy Pappalardo, Gregory Pappalardo and Michelle Tombini



Left to Right: David Lacher, Carmelina DiMarco, and Frank DiMarco



From left to right: Hon. Robert Ullman, Hon. Susan Kettner, Laurie E. Dallos and Julie Kattan.



From left to right: Hon. Kathie E. Davidson, Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick and Joan Lefkowitz.



MHL and Port Chester Bar President Denise P. Ward and NRBA President Ronald V. Zezima.



From left to right: Barry Fartel, Hon. Anthony A. Scaripino, Taylor Piscionere-Konicoff and Michael Konicoff (future President of the MHL Bar).



Left to Right- From Quantum Mortgage Corp.- Sebastian Chica and Stephanie Pierce, Ralph Berardi of Pepe/Berard Capital, LLC, Charles Weill and Michael Benevento of Quatum Mortgage Corp.



Special Thanks to Suzanne Clary from the John Jay Heritage Foundation who helped organize the event and allowed us to use this wonderful venue.

For more Pictures, check the NRBAR.org website or [click here](#).

### CLE Update

The NRBA offers free monthly CLE's to its members. Pictured below the speakers at our November 2018 CLE on Mediation and Arbitration from left to right: New Rochelle Chief Clerk James Generoso, Hon. Anthony Carbone, New Rochelle City Court and Hon. Daniel Angiolillo, at the New Rochelle City Hall.



### Lawyers in the Classroom

**Volunteers needed** - Each May, volunteer attorneys spend four consecutive Friday afternoons teaching basic Constitutional Law to fifth graders in the New Rochelle public school system. The total time commitment is approximately eight hours a year. Volunteers are offered a two credit CLE training course and are provided with a curriculum created by an educator jointly with an attorney. This is a great opportunity to interact with very eager, bright students and the dedicated teachers who work in our city's public schools. Contact David Lacher ([dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com)) for more information.



### The SideBar

Please find information about events and news of interest from the NRBA and various state and bar association events.

### Network of Bar Leaders

October 11, 2018, Jeff Levin (former President of the NRBA and Ronald V. Zezima (President of the NRBA) attended the annual meeting of the Network of Bar Leaders in Manhattan, where they met presidents of bar associations from throughout the New York City metropolitan area. The event was hosted by the Korean American Bar Association.



Bridget Ahn, President of the Korean Bar Association, presented the Network's annual award to Attorney General Barbara Underwood.

### Gender Fairness Survey

In November, Chief Judge DiFiore and the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts began distributing an Attorney Survey on Gender Fairness in the New York State Courts. The survey replicates some of the questions from the original 1985 survey to allow for progress to be measured, and it addresses some additional areas.

The electronic survey was distributed by email to all attorneys in the Attorney Registration Database who have a place of business or reside in New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut and provided their email address in their attorney registration form.

The survey, which has been distributed to approximately 70,000 attorneys includes a unique, single use, link to each potential participant. This represents a sample of 41% of all attorneys registered as active in the OCA attorney registration database. For statistical analysis, this is an enormous sample. The purpose of making the link unique was to ensure the survey would not be duplicated and shared thereby enhancing the data reliability and validity of the findings.

- If you are a NY state court user and have received the invitational email from Chief Judge DiFiore, please complete the 15 minute survey before the end of December. Your response is very important and will be kept confidential. It will be aggregated with other survey responses.
- If you have not received the invitational email and believe you included your email address in your attorney registration, please check your SPAM folder.
- Please do not share the link. It was intended for you and can only be used once.
- If you did not receive the survey, it's likely that you did not include your email address on the attorney registration form.

The press release announcing the survey may be found [here](#). Should you have any questions, please send them to

[WOMENINTHECOURTS@nycourts.gov](mailto:WOMENINTHECOURTS@nycourts.gov).



### **A REMINDER ABOUT OUR SPONSORS**

The following individuals and institutions have sponsored our CLEs and events in the past. We thank them for their support and ask our members to seriously consider engaging them for their services.

**Appellate Printers**

**Helen Mezger of Appellate Innovations,**  
3 Barker Avenue, 2nd Floor, White Plains, NY  
10601. Cell: (203) 232-1764.

**Banks**

**Adam Kintish of TD Bank,** 107 Chatsworth  
Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538. Cell: (914) 960-  
4243.

**Anthony J. Forgione of Sterling National Bank,**  
21 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY 10707. Cell: (914)  
922-9429.

**Joseph A. Ruhl, Esq. of Orange Bank & Trust,**  
42 Waller Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601. Cell:  
(914) 260-3475.

**Lola Gazivoda, of M&T Bank Business Banking,**  
120 White Plains Road, Suite 300, Tarrytown, NY  
10591. Phone: 914-366-8591 Cell: 914-268-7975  
Fax: 914-366-8501 & Email: [lgazivoda@mtb.com](mailto:lgazivoda@mtb.com).

**Michael Padilla, of M&T Bank,** 300 Mamaroneck  
Avenue, Mamaroneck, New York 10543. Phone:  
914-698-6400 & Email: [mpadilla@mtb.com](mailto:mpadilla@mtb.com).

**Financial Advisors**

**James Alperin,** Financial Advisor at **Morgan  
Stanley Wealth Management,** One Fawcett Place,  
3rd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830. Cell: (917) 697-  
1581.

**Mortgage Brokers**

**Ralph J. Berardi, Jr. of Pepe/Berard Capital,  
LLC and Quantum Mortgage Corp.,**  
211 South Ridge Street, Second Floor,  
Rye Brook, New York 10573. Cell: (914) 329-6375.

**Real Estate Brokers**

**Michele Silverman Bedell, of Silversons Realty  
LLC,** 6 Palmer Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Cell:  
(914) 906-4376.

**Miriam "Lori" Morrow of Keller Williams  
Realty,** 120 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, NY  
10804. Cell: (914) 260-5349. Email:  
[lorimorrow@kw.com](mailto:lorimorrow@kw.com).

**Title Insurance Companies**

**David Baron and Daniel Bokol of TitleVest,**  
44 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. Tel: (212)  
757-5800.

**Christine Gagliardi of TitleVest,**  
235 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 303, White Plains,  
NY 10605. Tel: (914) 304-8100 ext. 382.

**Alison Orlando and Maria Murphy of Judicial  
Title.** 800 Westchester Ave, Suite S-340  
Rye Brook, NY 10573 Tel: (914) 381-6700.

**Brett Forman of First Nationwide Title (an  
AmTrust Financial Company),**  
220 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 3105, New York, NY  
10017. Cell: (917) 837-6358.

**Michael Lisk of Record and Return Title  
Agency, Inc.,** 7 Dempsey Place, Eastchester, NY  
10709. Tel: (914) 395-2285.

**Nancy A. Scovotti of The Great American Title  
Agency Inc.,** 170 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 207  
White Plains, NY 10601. Cell: (914) 841-6229.

**Holly Hasbrouck of Stewart Title Insurance  
Company,** 707 Westchester Ave., Suite 302,  
White Plains, NY 10604. Cell: (914) 552-0756.

**Roseanne Picone of Benchmark Title Agency,  
LLC,** 222 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 102  
White Plains, NY 10605. Cell: (914) 422-1550.

**Others**

**Kommer Bave & Ollman LLP,**  
145 Huguenot Street, Suite 402, New Rochelle, NY  
10801. Tel: (914) 633-7400.

**Sam Pierce, New Rochelle City Marshall,**  
475 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

**Westchester Family Care, Inc.,**  
1 Depot Plaza, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. [Tel:\(914\)  
764-7500.](tel:9147647500)



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS REMINDER

Please be reminded that the NRBA transitioned to a new membership software system in 2017, where membership is from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year. The annual dues are \$100. Members who renew, and prospective members seeking to join the NRBA, should do so through the website. All renewing members should update their contact information, practice areas and other information online at <http://www.nrbar.org/>. When you load the website, enter the email address at which you currently receive NRBA notices as your login-in ID and click on the “Forgot Password” button to begin the registration process. If you have technical difficulties renewing online, please contact Hon. Jeffrey Levin at: [jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com) and we will assist you.

Due to some technical difficulties, we are currently asking that all renewals be paid by physical check, please make it out to “New Rochelle Bar Association” and mail it to The New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802. Even if you pay by check, you should still log in and update your contact information to ensure that this information is current. If you need help with this, please contact the NRBA and we try to assist you.



### CLASSIFIEDS

#### **OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE:**

Office space available for rent at 271 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Please contact Richard Sosis at [drlaw41@verizon.net](mailto:drlaw41@verizon.net), or via Telephone at 914-632-5151 for further details.

#### **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Consumer Affairs Agency Attorney , **Salary:** \$66,326.00 / \$76,275.00, 42 Broadway, New York, NY, **Job ID:** 361165 (see full job description [here](#)).



### MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We extend our warmest welcomes to the newest members of the NRBA: **Kathleen Gill** ([KGill@newrochelleny.com](mailto:KGill@newrochelleny.com)), **Andrew Kirwin** ([akirwin@attglobal.net](mailto:akirwin@attglobal.net)) and **Patrick J. Wynne** ([Patrick@PWynnelaw.com](mailto:Patrick@PWynnelaw.com)). Please make sure to say hello and make the new members feel welcome at our next event, the Surrogate’s Court Dinner at Juliano’s on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Additionally, we would like to thank all members who have already renewed their membership and special thanks to those who made the additional scholarship contribution.

We send our sincerest condolences to all our members who have lost loved ones this year, especially Richard Grayson, Esq. and Hon Barbara Zambelli for the loss of their respective spouses.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January 2019

**January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Board meeting at offices of Frank DiMarco, Esq.

**January 8<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Surrogate's Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Juliano's Caterers. [Click Here for Registration Form.](#)

**January 17<sup>th</sup>:** Joseph M. Accetta will present a 2 credit CLE titled The Transition from an Adult Guardianship to a Decedent's Estate at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber at New Rochelle City Hall the. Mr. Accetta is a Court Attorney/Referee in the Adult Guardianship Part of the Supreme Court for Westchester County in White Plains. Refreshments will be provided by the NRBA.

### February 2019

**February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Holly Hasbrouck and Stewart Title will sponsor a CLE to be presented by John Frates, Esq. at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber at New Rochelle City Hall. The 2 credit CLE will include one diversity CLE credit. Ms. Hasbrouck is a Sales Executive with Stewart Title. Refreshments will be provided by Stewart Title.

### March 2019

**March 21<sup>st</sup>:** Joseph A. Ruhl, Esq. and Orange Bank & Trust Company are sponsoring a two ethics credit CLE to be presented by Joseph A. Ruhl, Esq. and Richard Grayson, Esq. titled Ethics Update 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber at New Rochelle City Hall. Mr. Ruhl is the Regional President for Westchester County at Orange Bank. Richard Grayson, Esq. is an attorney with an office in White Plains. Mr. Grayson represents attorneys, judges and bar applicants in ethics matters. Refreshments will be provided by Orange Bank.

### April 2019

**April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Court of Appeals Dinner, location to be announced.

**Date TBD:** Attorneys participating in the Lawyer in the Classroom program will be invited to attend a 2 credit CLE on Constitutional Law. The Constitutional case law that is discussed at the CLE will be relevant to the Lawyer in the Classroom curriculum. Contact David Lacher ([dlacher@lacherlaw.com](mailto:dlacher@lacherlaw.com)) for more information.

### June 2019

**June 10<sup>th</sup>:** Dinner Cruise to Statute of Liberty.

**June 20<sup>th</sup>:** Robert C. Hertman, Esq. is to present a 2 credit CLE on Cannabis Law at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber at New Rochelle City Hall. Mr. Hertman's law office is in White Plains. He is the Chair of the Westchester County Bar Association's Cannabis Law Section.

NRBA CLE programs will be presented on April 18, 2019 and May 16, 2019 at New Rochelle City Hall. The topics and speakers have not been determined. The NRBA would encourage each of you to send us your suggestions for programs and speakers. For information on and reservations for our CLEs, or suggestions for future CLE topics, please contact Jeffrey L. Levin, Esq. at [jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com).

After each CLE the NRBA has continued to donate the surplus dinners to the Open Arms Men's Shelter in White Plains.

Expect to receive advance notices with particulars by e-mail of these and future CLEs. Information will also be posted at [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org).

OUR WEBSITE: [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org)

With our website members can obtain information concerning our Bar, its activities, and general legal and community news. We welcome feedback.

This Newsletter can be downloaded from our website. Thanks for helping keep NRBA green.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

For an up-to-date listing of scheduled events, including CLEs and dinner meetings, kindly view existing event postings on our website: [www.nrbar.org](http://www.nrbar.org).

For reservations for any of our upcoming dinners or events please contact Treasurer **Frank DiMarco, Esq.**, New Rochelle Bar Association, P.O. Box 1863, New Rochelle, NY 10802.

Getting Published

We welcome your submissions! All submissions should be sent to Artem Djukic, Editor, at [adjukic@riker.com](mailto:adjukic@riker.com). Please mark the subject as NRBA news. Articles between 500 to 1200 words should be sent in Word format. Photographs should be sent as jpeg attachments. Authors should include a short biographical statement with their articles, which must be spell checked, cite checked and in blue book form. Opinions expressed in any article printed in the NRBA newsletter are solely those of the author(s) and are not positions taken by the NRBA. Materials submitted allow NRBA limited copyright and full permission to reprint the article in the NRBA newsletter without additional consent.

