



ONONDAGA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
BAR REPORTER

FEATURED ARTICLES

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Onondaga County Bar Association
CNY Philanthropy Center
431 East Fayette Street, Suite 300
Syracuse, NY 13202
315-471-2667

Our 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.



In Memoriam

Mark W. Wasmund

Elizabeth "Liz" McGinty

Thomas Victor Dadey, Sr.

Roy W. Helmetag



ONONDAGA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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The 1,200 member Onondaga County Bar Association was founded in 1875. Among its purposes are: to maintain the honor and dignity of the profession of law; to promote suitable reforms and necessary improvements in the law; to facilitate the administration of justice; and, to elevate the standards of integrity, professional competence, and courtesy in the legal profession.

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Letter from the **PRESIDENT**



Danielle M. Fogel

Dear Colleagues:

I am excited and honored to begin my year as President of the Onondaga County Bar Association. I want to thank our Past President, Paula Engel, for navigating a challenging year for our organization and the legal community. We truly appreciate your leadership and dedication to the bar association's mission as well as the community. I also want to thank our amazing staff, Jeff, Carrie and Maggie and I am looking forward to working with all of you.

For those of you who do not know me, I have been a litigator in the community for over 16 years. I have enjoyed being part of this community, the networking opportunities, bar events and CLE programs. I am always struck by how collegial our legal community is. It is refreshing and something I think all legal communities should strive to achieve.

I think we can all agree this has been a very long year and we have missed so many opportunities. As the community begins to resume normalcy, my goal is to have OCBA do the same. Our plan is to begin safely resuming in-person activities - meetings, social events, CLEs and even our Annual Dinner in October. Stay tuned!!

As I mentioned at the annual meeting in April, I was organizing a five-part practical series, which began earlier this month with the help of The Honorable Deborah Karalunas and Marty Lynn with Jean Marie Westlake as the program's moderator. It was a great kick-off to the series! The second session was led by experienced litigators Brandon King and Josh Gillette. Just yesterday we had our third session with useful insights from Jean Marie Westlake, Loretta Kilpatrick, and Sandra Sabourin. Each Wednesday we will have a lunch-and-learn program addressing a different topic. There is still time to sign up for the remaining programs. Click [HERE](#) to register -- don't miss out.

CLE programs are essential for learning and growing as a practitioner. Please contact me or Carrie with any ideas.

See you soon!!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle M. Fogel". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Danielle M. Fogel, President

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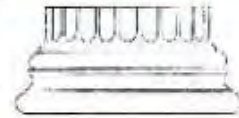
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Associate Attorney Position

Associate Attorney position available in small, downtown office. Strong research and writing skills necessary. Salary commensurate with experience and background. Benefits package included. Resume and cover letter accepted in confidence at the Onondaga County Bar Association, send to: info1@onbar.org.



Ray and Linda Straub

Modest beginnings laid the foundation for our lives. By working hard and being thoughtful with our spending, we have everything we need, while still maintaining a portion that is set aside for the Central New York community.

As a professional advisor, I learned that there are three places your money can go: to taxes, people you care about and your community. That's why Linda and I decided to support several community organizations through a designated fund, in addition to putting money aside for our heirs.

It's important to us to keep resources in the Syracuse area to help charitable organizations continue their good work. We know that the Community Foundation is going to be here a lot longer than we are, and it feels good to know that what we've set up will continue under the professional guidance of the Community Foundation staff.

GIVING THOUGHTFULLY: RAY & LINDA STRAUB



Read more of the Straubs' story at cnycf.org/Straub



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FROM THE COURTS:

Fifth District Establishes Virtual Court Access Program



“ACCESS TO JUSTICE” is not just a phrase to the Hon. James P. Murphy, Administrative Judge of the 5th Judicial District, or to the Judges and the employees of the 5th Judicial District. After launching the 5th Judicial District “Virtual Court Access Program” and going through a pilot period during the last month or so, the 5th Judicial District has in place a program enabling Syracuse area residents who, because they lack the necessary technology or reliable internet, have been unable to gain access to the Virtual Courts which have become a part of the New York State Court System amid COVID-19.

The COVID-19 pandemic, almost overnight, created a serious crisis for people who do not have the computer access, computer skills, or reliable internet services, to allow them to appear and have their day in court. Recognizing the need, Judge Murphy established a partnership between the 5th Judicial District, like-minded community-based organizations, and local Houses of Worship with the goal of providing safe, private, and secure locations where community members can connect with the courts via computer. There are currently six locations in operation throughout the Syracuse community where litigants can appear in Court via computer.

One of those locations is Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, located 347 Cortland Ave., Syracuse, NY. The Reverend Maxwell George Jones, Senior Pastor, states: “For people who have no access, this means they are not able to tell their story about a legal matter. Many people also are intimidated by the Court. These are the reasons we wanted to open our church to the community for this purpose. The church can be a friendlier place for someone who is feeling stress about their court date, and it can be more accessible to them, not only physically in the neighborhood, but also emotionally. It’s the right thing to do and we welcome everyone.”

The 5th Judicial District, working with not-for-profit organizations in the community and the Onondaga County Bar Foundation, raised private funds to purchase equipment, recruit and train volunteers and ensure protocols for COVID safety and court procedures. Each facility offers access to a computer, microphone, scanner, and a printer to enable litigants to participate in court proceedings. Each litigant has access to a private area within the facility. A trained volunteer assists with computer technology.

Beth Broadway, President and CEO of Interfaith Works, states: “This program will help our clients and the community members we serve in so many ways. Being able to have your court case completed takes huge stress out of your life. You can look to your future, and not to the stumbling block in your way. So many people have suffered during COVID-19 due to the digital divide and being able to build the infrastructure for EVERYONE to have their day in court, regardless of their computer savvy, is a huge step towards justice for all. We are so gratified that churches and mosques across the city have opened their doors and that the equipment for people to “go to court” is ready and waiting for them. A big thanks to Judge Murphy and this team for this innovation in service to the community.”

The 5th Judicial District Virtual Court Access Program has been in operation since April 26, 2021. Plans are in the works to extend the six-facility location sites to 10 sites within Onondaga County. Additional plans for the expansion of this program to the 5th Judicial District's more rural areas are also underway (the 5th Judicial District is comprised of six counties in Central New York, including Onondaga, Oneida, Jefferson, Lewis, Oswego, and Herkimer counties).

Appointments may be scheduled by contacting the 5th Judicial District helpline at (315) 671-4699 or 5thVIRTUALCOURTACCESS@nycourts.gov.

For more information visit: <https://ww2.nycourts.gov/5JDVirtualCourtAccess>

Partners in this work include the following:

- Onondaga County Bar Foundation • InterFaith Works of CNY • Volunteer Lawyers Project of Onondaga County, Inc. • PEACE, Inc. • Center for Community Alternatives • Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon
- Onondaga County Public Libraries • Legal Services of Central New York • Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc. • Human Services Leadership Council • Hiscock Legal Aid • SU College of Law | *With special thanks to Paula M. Engel, Esq., the Lynn Law Firm, LLP and DeFrancisco & Falgiatano, LLP for their financial support.*

Do you have a court date coming up?
Worried about appearing in court virtually?

THE 5TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT VIRTUAL COURT ACCESS PROGRAM CAN HELP!

- ▶ Get help appearing in Court by computer at a private location near you.
- ▶ Accessible locations for people of all abilities are available.



To schedule an appointment, please call: (315) 671-4699
or email: 5thVirtualCourtAccess@nycourts.gov
For more information, visit:
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FROM THE COURTS:



From the Hon. Martha E. Mulroy Fifth Judicial District – Onondaga County Family Court

As the Supervisory Judge of the 5th District Family Court Judges, I wanted to extend an opportunity to join the Attorney for Children’s panel. This very critical role involves the representation of children in the family court process. Intelligent, caring and diligent attorneys are needed to represent these special clients as their families make their way through court proceedings.

In order to be eligible to become an AFC, an attorney must:

- 1) Be in good standing in New York and in any other jurisdiction in which the attorney is admitted;
- 2) Complete the introductory training sponsored by the AFC Program;
- 3) Have obtained experience representing children, either as counsel of record or co-counsel in three different types of Family Court proceedings (a JD or PINS, child welfare, and a custody or visitation case);
- 4) Have participated as counsel or co-counsel, or observed two hearings in Family Court at which testimony was taken;
- 5) Not to be employed full time by a governmental agency.
See 22 NYCRR 1032.49a)(1)

The next introductory training will be held in October, date TBA. The application to attend will be posted on the AFC Program website in July. To receive the application, send your contact information to Deputy Director Adam Oshrin aoshrin@nycourts.gov. We can assist with “shadowing” opportunities. We can also consider experience representing parents to satisfy the requirements.

The attorneys are paid through Fourth Department Attorney for Children Program at \$75.00/hour. However, the payment is expeditious and guaranteed! There are efforts being put forth with our legislature to raise these rates.

This is a rewarding and fulfilling experience and as a Judge for several years, I can speak with first-hand knowledge both as a practitioner and as a judge as to the importance of this role. Please feel free to call me at 315-728-7234 if you have any questions.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HENRY F. "HANK" SOBOTA, ESQ.

Henry Sobota is Senior Counsel at Ferrara Fiorenza PC and has achieved superstar status as a go-to arbitrator for the OCBA Attorney-Client Fee Dispute Resolution Program. He answers a few questions here as this month's Member Spotlight.



Tell us about yourself. Where'd you go to college and law school? Do you come from a long line of practitioners?

I am a native Central New Yorker. I grew up in Fulton, went to college at the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations, and received my law degree from Albany Law School. I definitely did not come from a long line of practitioners. I am a third-generation American whose grandparents were born abroad but came here when they were young to escape poverty and oppressive conditions in their home countries. I was fortunate to have conscientious parents who valued education, as well as good schools and helpful career guidance.

What kind of law do you practice?

I have been with Ferrara Fiorenza P.C., a law firm that I helped to found in 1994, along with Ben Ferrara, Nick Fiorenza and several other more senior attorneys. I have been serving as Senior Counsel to the firm after my semi-retirement in 2018. The firm focuses on education, employment and labor law work for public and private sector employers. Much of the firm's work is representing school districts throughout Upstate New York in such matters, as well as in construction law, tax certiorari proceedings and other school business matters. I am proud to say that we have an AV-rated firm with a family-like atmosphere. We were honored to be recognized by the CNY Business Journal as one of the "Best Places to Work" in Central New York.

Prior to Ferrara Fiorenza, I was an associate in a Syracuse law firm for four years, and served as Deputy Counsel for Labor Relations and Environmental Law while employed by the New York State School Boards Association before entering private practice. My private practice has focused on representing school districts in court and in arbitration and administrative proceedings involving employment and school law matters.

continued on the next page.

What about your law practice has been the most fun or cool or satisfying or gratifying?

It has been very satisfying to help clients resolve contentious and potentially costly disputes in an efficient manner. I have been fortunate to work with and learn from accomplished professionals both at the firm and at our clients.



In an era where Alternative Dispute Resolution is desired more and more what is the trick to bring people in dispute to agreement / accord?

I don't think there is any one single trick to resolving attorney-client fee disputes under Part 137. Each dispute has its own aspects that the arbitrator must understand. I try to apply my decades of experience with the arbitration process, litigation, billing partner background and lessons learned at the Cornell ILR School in resolving disputes.

Lastly, you have been a longtime OCBA member. Why should people volunteer with the bar association and become involved?

I believe that lawyers should view the practice of law more as a profession than as a business. In the decades since I graduated from law school, though, law practice has become less professional and respectful, and more acrimonious. Local bar associations are a hedge against that. They provide an opportunity to meet, know, learn from and participate in a community of lawyers and judges.



THE PRACTICE PAGE

AUTHENTICATING RECORDS UNDER CPLR 4540-a

Hon. Mark C. Dillon *

CPLR 4540-a is a relatively new statute, effective on January 1, 2019 (L.2018, ch. 219, sec. 1). The statute is only two sentences long. The first sentence directs that if a party provides discovery pursuant to CPLR Article 31, and includes material “authored or otherwise created” by the responding party itself, the adverse party receiving the material may offer it into evidence with a presumption of authenticity. The second sentence provides that the presumption may be rebutted by a preponderance of the evidence that the material is not authentic. Since legal presumptions may always be rebutted, the second sentence of the statute adds little, other than to define the preponderance standard applicable to this instance of rebuttal. The second sentence also states that a rebuttal to authenticity does not preclude any other objection to the material’s admissibility. In other words, the statute is only what it is.

Some observations are in order. Material provided by a party during discovery may be of admissible relevance at both summary judgment and at trial. CPLR 4540-a is written broadly enough to be applicable to both. Practitioners may therefore proffer material authored or created by the adversary as evidence in chief, without having to establish its authenticity. Examples may conceivably include accident reports, photographs,

recorded statements, business records, and tax returns. If a party moves for summary judgment, for example, and attaches an adversary’s self-authored discovery material to meet the prima facie burden of proof on the motion, the opposing party cannot object on authentication grounds unless prepared to contest the authenticity of its own previously-disclosed material.

The legislative intent behind the statute is to relieve parties of proving the authenticity of an adversary’s self-created material offered as evidence, when authenticity would typically not be a contested issue anyway. The presumption of authenticity saves the offering party the time, trouble, and expense of establishing the material’s genuineness, and saves the court the trouble of adjudicating the issue. In the rare event that a party’s disclosed material is a product of forgery, fraud, or other defect, the disclosing party may utilize the backstop provision of CPLR 4540-a to challenge the legal presumption, by producing a preponderance of evidence that the material is not authentic. By that means, the producing party may protect itself from the pitfalls of being victimized by an unwitting disclosure of inauthentic material.

The statute is limited to material authored or created by the party providing it in discovery (*Sands Bros. Venture Capital II, LLC v Park Ave. Bank*, 67 Misc.3d 1216[A] [Sup. Ct. NY Co. 2020]). The statutory presumption does not extend to material authored or created by third parties outside of the producing party's vicarious control, or to material obtained from non-parties.

CPLR 4540-a does not displace other methods of authenticating evidence, but merely augments the means by which it may be established. A party proffering material as evidence at summary judgment or trial may, if it chooses, use other recognized methods for establishing the material's authenticity and admissibility.

The statute is still too young to have generated much decisional authority. So far, the Fourth Department held the statute inapplicable to the medical records of a plaintiff's physician, as they were not created by the plaintiff herself (*McCarthy v Hameed*, 191AD3d 1462 [Feb. 11, 2021]). The result would likely be different in a medical

malpractice action involving records disclosed by a defendant physician as the self-generating party. One reported decision from the Supreme Court, Monroe County, *Messinger v Messinger*, 66 Misc.3d 1222(A), involved a dispute between ex-spouses over their proportional responsibilities toward a child's college expenses. The spouses' respective contributions would be affected by their incomes and assets. At trial, the court held that the father had "created" a document that he had downloaded from his pension account and was within CPLR 4540-a, even though the actual contents were derived from a state pension website. However, the court also directed that the father could establish in a supplemental submission that the documentary material was inauthentic under the second sentence of CPLR 4540-a. The holdings of *McCarthy* and *Messenger* may not be entirely consistent, as in both cases the records in question were created by a non-party but produced different results.

Stay tuned for further court decisions on this statute.



Mark C. Dillon is a Justice of the Appellate Division, 2nd Dept., an Adjunct Professor of New York Practice at Fordham Law School, and a contributing author of CPLR Practice Commentaries in McKinney's.



OCBA ESTABLISHES ADR TASK FORCE

At the request of Fifth Judicial District Administrative Judge, Hon. James P. Murphy, the Onondaga County Bar Association's Board of Directors established an Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") Task Force. John T. McCann, Esq., a partner with Hancock Estabrook, LLP, was appointed Chairperson of the Task Force. The Task Force's Mission Statement is provided on the next page. In short, Judge Murphy's charge to the Task Force is to support and promote the use of ADR in Onondaga County as an effective, efficient and economical method of dispute resolution. This directive is in keeping with the State of New York Unified Court System's Presumptive ADR Initiative, which promotes and furthers the goals of Chief Judge Janet DiFiore's Excellence Initiative. In sum, the use of ADR by the Onondaga County Bar will help to eliminate case backlogs and enhance the quality and affordability of justice.

The OCBA conducted a survey of the OCBA member seeking those with knowledge of ADR processes and an interest to serve on the Task Force. As a result of that survey a cross-section of respondents were invited to serve on the Task Force. Task Force members are:

John T. McCann, Esq., Chairperson
Paula Engel, Esq.
Linda Gehron, Esq.
Nancy L. Giardina, Esq.
Hon. Anthony C. LaValle
Zach Mattison, Esq.
John W. McCullough
Susan McNeil, Esq.
Emily Middlebrook, Esq.
Julian B. Modesti, Esq.
Lawrence (Micha) Ordway, Esq.
Ramon Rivera, Esq.
Marie Robeson
Stewart Weisman, Esq.
JeanMarie Westlake, Esq.

Hancock Estabrook, LLP
Onondaga County Department of Law
Hiscock Legal Aid Society
Nancy L. Giardina, Esq.
ADR Coordinator, Fifth Judicial District
Sugarman Law Firm
New Justice Conflict Resolution Services, Inc.
Satter Ruhlen Law Firm
Hancock Estabrook, LLP
Harris Beach PLLC
Bousquet Holstein
Mackenzie Hughes LLP
Court Assistant, Fifth Judicial District
Hancock, Danile & Johnson, P.C.
DeFrancisco & Falgiatano, LLP

An introductory meeting of the Task Force occurred on May 12, 2021. Members heard Administrative Judge Murphy speak concerning the Chief Judge's Presumptive ADR Initiative and the current status of ADR in the Fifth Judicial District. On June 2, 2021 the Task Force met to establish a Mission Statement. (See next page.)

The Task Force will continue to meet over the next several months and plans to pursue its mission by addressing topics such as recruitment of arbitrators to hear Syracuse City Court Civil Actions, updates to the ADR Plan for the Fifth Judicial District, and supporting ADR processes (including use of virtual platforms) offered through the Courts of the Fifth Judicial District.

Further information about ADR is posted on the Fifth Judicial District's website.

(<http://ww2.nycourts.gov/courts/5jd/ADR.shtml>).

Onondaga County Bar Association – ADR Task Force

Mission Statement

Approved June 2, 2021

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”) Task Force of the Onondaga County Bar Association (“OCBA”) recognizes the critical importance of negotiation, collaboration, mediation, neutral evaluation, arbitration, in-court settlement practices, and summary jury trials in all areas of civil legal practice. The ADR Task Force is committed to supporting and promoting use of ADR as an effective, efficient, and economical method of dispute resolution wherein the parties to a dispute are empowered to work together to achieve a resolution.

The ADR Task Force will draw on the collective experience of OCBA membership, as well as other stakeholders, who may include judges, clerks, court personnel, members of the Bar, litigants, members of the community at large, and dispute resolution providers.

The Task Force will serve its mission by:

- Reviewing recent ADR developments, initiatives, processes, techniques, and costs in order to improve the ways in which ADR is utilized to resolve legal disputes, and making recommendations as may be appropriate
- Increasing the legal community’s understanding and utilization of dispute resolution alternatives
- Enhancing the proficiency of counsel and neutrals who participate in ADR including providing support for legal education and training
- Raising awareness within the community at large concerning the uses and benefits of ADR
- Supporting efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the practice of ADR
- Providing a venue for stakeholders to network, exchange ideas, and interact on issues relating to dispute resolution

Smith Sovik Celebrates Three Quarters of a Century

Smith Sovik proudly celebrates its 75th year of continuous legal service to the Central New York community and beyond.

In 1946, Laurence (“Larry”) Sovik and John Timothy Smith established Smith and Sovik, primarily representing clients in commercial transactions. The initial office was in a small corner of the Wilson Building on Salina Street in downtown Syracuse. Smith Sovik then transitioned to larger accommodations in the Empire Building and later to its home office at 250 South Clinton Street, still in downtown Syracuse.



Laurence "Larry" Sovik



John Timothy Smith

Larry Sovik was always known for his zealous advocacy in the courtroom as well as his exploits on the golf course, which included annual awards and accolades as well as playing in the first foursome to tee off at Green Lakes State Park with the course designer Robert Trent Jones.

Fritz Sovik, Larry’s son joined the firm in 1948, established the common-law “seat belt defense” in New York. Fritz quickly became a legend throughout the State by winning cases that were not winnable. Beginning in the 1960s and progressing into the 1970s and 1980s, Fritz Sovik and Bill Sugnet oversaw the firm’s expanding transition into civil litigation both in defense of product liability and medical malpractice cases.



Jim Lantier



Kevin Hulslander

Smith Sovik, led by Jim Lantier in the 1990s and Kevin Hulslander since 2005, has grown slowly but surely into one of the most accomplished trial firms in the State. Our lawyers are routinely voted as excellent in their fields by their peers.

From Buffalo/Rochester to Utica/Albany and from Watertown to Binghamton and beyond to the courts in and around New York City and Long Island, Smith Sovik lawyers aggressively and tenaciously represent individuals, doctors, lawyers, engineers, architects and other professionals as well as manufacturers and corporations of all kinds in courtrooms all across the Empire State. Our partners continue to win when prosecuting or defending personal injury and commercial disputes in all the state and federal courts.

As Smith Sovik has grown, so has the practice. Now covering the entire State of New York, Smith Sovik attorneys have secured multimillion dollar verdicts in plaintiff's personal injury cases and defense verdicts for clients which are too numerous to count.

Smith Sovik takes referrals in all areas of practice including plaintiff's personal injury work, commercial disputes, representation of health care professionals, and attorneys. We routinely represent professionals and individuals in all courts throughout New York State including trial and appellate work. We look forward to representing our clients throughout the state for many years to come.

Newsmakers & Influencers



Barclay Damon Sets Firmwide Holiday to Honor Black Heritage

In honor of Juneteenth, Barclay Damon LLP is providing a new annual holiday for the law firm's attorneys and staff. The day off is intended to give attorneys and staff an opportunity to take action in support of the Black community, learn more about Black history and current issues, and enjoy Black culture. This year, with June 19, the day of the holiday, falling on a Saturday, the firm will close on the preceding Friday.

"As a new addition to our roster of firm-sponsored diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, which includes our Black Employees Affinity Network, we're pleased to provide this new day off," said Connie Cahill, Barclay Damon's managing partner. "We suggest our attorneys and staff use the time to reflect on personal experiences with racism, support Black-owned businesses, volunteer with a civil-rights organization, or delve into a movie or book from our 'Anti-Racism Resources' list. Many of these activities are perfect to share with children and other family and friends, and we encourage our employees to enjoy an enriching day with loved ones."

"I'm proud to be part of a firm that recognizes the importance of our day-to-day choices and actions in building a more inclusive community and that is committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion within the firm, the legal profession, and the larger society. Working together, we'll keep taking steps—large and small—to ensure we move toward a brighter future with equity for all," said Sheila Gaddis, chair of Barclay Damon's Diversity Partner Committee.

This year, Barclay Damon Tower will again be lit with "BLM" at the top, as it was last year in recognition of Juneteenth. Other portions of the building will be lit red, white, and blue. The lighting is done in partnership with Black-owned sign vendor Ariella and will be on view throughout Juneteenth weekend.

Click [Here](#) to view Barclay Damon's Anti-Racism Resources List



Connie Cahill



Sheila Gaddis

Newsmakers & Influencers

Barclay Damon Recognized by Chambers

Five Barclay Damon practice areas have been recognized by *Chambers USA* in its 2021 directory as top-ranked in their geographical areas.

Chambers ranks "the leading lawyers and law firms" across the country based on "in-depth market analysis and independent research."

Rankings are compiled "through assessment of a firm's work and opinions from external market sources, with an emphasis on client feedback."

They are Corporate/M&A, Environment, Labor & Employment, and Litigation: General Commercial, all in Upstate New York.



Additionally, Chambers listed the following partners as notable practitioners (pictured from left to right):

Jim Canfield (Corporate/M&A), ranked since 2015

Brenda Colella (Energy: State Regulatory & Wholesale Electric Market), ranked for the first time this year

Jeff Davis (Environment), ranked for the first time this year

Jon Devendorf (Litigation: General Commercial), ranked since 2015



Volunteer Advocate Lawyer for Animal Abuse Court - VALAC

SAVE THE DATE !!! The VALAC Mutt Strut returns to the Rail Line on the evening of September 9, 2021. Many details to follow! If you are a Rescue Group or Shelter interested in participating, please contact Program Director Nick DeMartino at Nick@nicholasdemartinolaw.com. All are welcome!

Newsmakers & Influencers

Construction Law Attorney Michael J. Balestra Joins Hancock Estabrook



Michael J. Balestra has joined the Hancock Estabrook, LLP as a partner in the Firm's Construction, Commercial Litigation and Cannabis practice areas. Representing owners, contractors and design professionals in complex matters related to public and private construction projects, Balestra assists clients in reviewing, drafting and negotiating all manner of construction contracts, subcontracts, engineering, procurement and construction agreements and related documents. He has extensive experience representing construction clients in litigation and arbitration involving claims of defective work, breach of contract, mechanics' lien foreclosure, changes in the work, payment and performance bond claims, extra work, unforeseen conditions and diversion of Lien Law trust funds, among other matters.

In addition to his construction law practice, Balestra also represents a wide range of clients in cannabis law and commercial litigation matters.

A Colgate University graduate, he earned a J.D. at the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Newsmakers & Influencers

Kasmarek, Records Join Bousquet Holstein

Samantha Z. Kasmarek joined Bousquet Holstein as Director of Attorney Recruitment and Development. She will coordinate and support the attorney recruiting process as well as create professional development programs in a variety of formats that support all areas of associate attorney development. She will also develop and implement a firmwide competency model and expectations for associates as they progress on the pathway to partnership. Prior to joining the firm, Kasmarek began her legal career as an attorney at Hiscock & Barclay (now Barclay Damon) in Syracuse where she concentrated on commercial litigation matters as well as torts, insurance and products liability issues. She most recently worked at Syracuse University College of Law in their Career Services Office where she counseled students on career planning, and all aspects of securing legal positions, including judicial clerkships. She earned a Bachelor of Arts at Le Moyne College and her law degree from SUNY Buffalo Law School. Ms. Kasmarek is originally from Massena, NY and resides with her family in Camillus.



Aaron C. Records has joined the firm as an Associate Attorney with the Brownfield's Practice Group. Aaron will guide clients in preparing and filing claims for the New York State Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) tax credits, as well as defending their claims through the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance's ("DTF") desk audit and full examination processes. Originally from New Hampshire, Aaron earned his bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Creative Writing from Colby-Sawyer College. Aaron spent one semester abroad as a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholar at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.



He earned his law degree at Syracuse University College of Law where he served on the Pro Bono Advisory Board, contributed to the Syrian Accountability Project, and was the Editor-in-Chief of Impunity Watch and the Journal of Global Rights and Organizations. After law school, Aaron was an associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP's New York City office in their State and Local Tax Income and Franchise department, assisting large clients with both income tax consulting and compliance services. Aaron currently resides in Syracuse with his family.

Newsmakers & Influencers



Westfall Law PLLC Adds to the Team

Westfall Law PLLC announces that Donald J. Martin, Esq. has joined its Syracuse office as Senior Counsel. Additionally, the firm adds Wendy L. Baker as a Senior Paralegal.

With significant experience in matrimonial and family law, civil and criminal litigation, as well as personal injury litigation, Martin will counsel the firm on complex litigation and family law matters.

Prior to joining Westfall Law PLLC, Martin was a partner in the firms of Sargent, Sargent & Martin; Martin, Martin & Woodward, LLC and Harris Beach PLLC and was subsequently a sole practitioner in The Donald J. Martin Law Firm, P.C.

Martin is a past and current member of the American, New York, and Onondaga County Bar Associations and a lecturer for continuing legal education with the New York State Bar Association. He is also admitted to practice in the state of Hawaii. He is a past treasurer and former member of the United Way Finance Committee and Investment Committee, a past member of the Board of Directors of the Syracuse Community Health Center Foundation, and the Board of Directors of the Museum of Science and Technology. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Jim and Juli Boeheim Foundation.

He received his Juris Doctorate from the Syracuse University College of Law, where he is now an Adjunct Professor in the disciplines of civil trial advocacy and criminal law.

Ms. Baker joins Westfall Law PLLC and will apply her 40 years of experience to her focus on matrimonial and family law, plus civil litigation. She was a paralegal to a senior member attorney at a large-sized law firm with offices throughout the state where she assisted in matrimonial and family law matters, estate planning, foreclosures, insurance defense, and personal injury.



Newsmakers & Influencers

VLP Welcomes New Staff



Tre'Coy Boyd

Shania Barton

Silvana Vergara

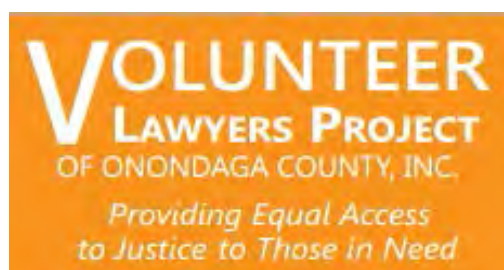
The Volunteer Lawyers Project has added three new staffers to assist the underserved and underrepresented populations the legal aid service helps in our area.

The new employees are Tre'Coy Boyd who is VLP's new Legal Assistant and Community Educator, Shania Barton who is the new Paralegal of the VLP Reentry Program, and Silvana Vergara who has previously supported the VLP general intake line, but will move forward as a Paralegal with the VLP Eviction Defense and Immigration team.

These new hires boast a variety of backgrounds and experience. For the last six years, Boyd has worked within the human service field. His previous work credits include working as a Teaching Assistant/Job Coach with the Syracuse City School District, a supervisor with the Elmcrest Children's Center, and as a caseworker with Catholic Charities.

Barton brings to her new role as a Paralegal with the Reentry Program her master's degree in Advertising from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. A Utica-area native, she attended Le Moyne College and interned with the Assigned Counsel Program of Oneida County.

Vergara is a former lawyer who practiced in Colombia and is a graduate of the Syracuse University College of Law with a Master in Law (LL.M.) for foreign attorneys. Previously, she worked at InterFaith Works of CNY as an Immigration Services Manager, serving refugees and immigrants and helping them prepare and submit immigration forms and applications to USCIS.



Newsmakers & Influencers



Syracuse Law and National Disabled Law Students Association Announce Inaugural National Disability Law Appellate Competition

Syracuse University College of Law and the National Disabled Law Students Association (NDSLAs) will co-host the first National Disability Law Appellate Competition (NDLAC) to be held virtually March 25 to 27, 2022.

The new advocacy competition, featuring a minimum of 12 teams from law schools across the United States, will deliberate a legal issue both significant and timely within the area of disability law. Participants will contend both with an appellate brief writing component and an oral argument component.

"NDLAC is the first national appellate advocating competition to focus exclusively on disability law. It will enable students to develop their oral advocacy skills while simultaneously navigating a challenging important area of disability law," said OCBA Board of Director's Member and Professor Michael Schwartz, Director of Syracuse Law's Disability Rights Clinic. "The competition will replicate a realistic court setting by exposing students to actual judges and lawyers who are familiar with appellate practice."

Each team may be comprised of two or three students. Teams will be assigned to represent either the petitioner or respondent and will write an appellate brief on behalf of that assigned party. During the preliminary rounds, each team will argue on behalf of each party.

"The College of Law encourages law students from across the country to participate in this new first-of-its-kind advocacy competition and to be a part of history," said Professor Todd Berger, Faculty Director of Advocacy Programs at Syracuse Law. "Breaking new ground in advocacy competition, I'm pleased to add NDLAC to Syracuse Law's two other national and international tournaments, the Syracuse National Trial Competition and the Transatlantic Negotiation Competition."

For information click [here](#). Applications will be open in August 2021.



Virginia C. Robbins Named Interim Assistant Dean of Career Services

Virginia C. Robbins has joined the College of Law as Interim Assistant Dean of Career Services. As Interim Dean, Robbins will develop programs and services to support and advise students as they embark on their career journeys and assist employers and alumni to engage and hire Syracuse Law talent.

Recently of counsel at Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC, Robbins retired from the law firm in late 2018. There, she led Bond's environmental and energy practice (2000-16), advising clients on state and federal regulatory compliance issues, particularly in the areas of air and water pollution control and solid and hazardous waste management.

What is the Lawyers' Assistance Program?

The Lawyers' Assistance Program of Onondaga County is a confidential service providing information, referrals, access to professional counseling and peer support.

What Kind of Assistance is Available?

You are entitled to a confidential telephone consultation, free counseling sessions with a professional counselor, and participation in peer support groups.

What Can I Expect When I Call for an Appointment?

You will talk to an intake coordinator who may refer you to an experienced counselor. Family Services Associates serves as the Program's counseling agency.

Is Contact with the Lawyers' Assistance Program Confidential?

YES. You can discuss the issue of confidentiality with the intake coordinator or counselor.

Why Was the Program Set Up?

The Program was established to assist lawyers who have problems with alcohol, drugs, stress, anxiety, depression, gambling and other personal problems.

Who May Call?

Attorneys, judges and law students in Onondaga County and these other neighboring counties: Oswego, Jefferson, Lewis, Herkimer, Oneida, Cortland, Cayuga and Madison counties.



For more information contact:

The New York State Bar Association Lawyer Assistance Program-- (800) 255-0569

Family Services Associates-- (315) 451-2161

Onondaga County Bar Association

Executive Director, Jeff Unaitis-- (315) 579-2581



The mission of the Onondaga County Bar Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Onondaga County Bar Association, is to aid members of the legal profession in Onondaga County who may be ill, incapacitated, indigent or otherwise in need, and to improve and promote:

- **The administration of justice;**
- **Service to the public and the legal community;**
- **Equal access to the legal system for all;**
- **Professional ethics and responsibility;**
- **Legal research and education; and**

Established in 1975, the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation. To fulfill its mission, the Foundation depends on individual donations (which are tax deductible as charitable contributions) and grants from other funding sources. The Foundation welcomes grant applications for projects consistent with this mission statement.

Ethics Hotline

New York lawyers faced with ethical questions regarding their own prospective conduct can reach the Ethics Hotline by calling volunteers Victor Hershendorfer at **315-913-4087** or Tony Gigliotti **315-727-6780**.

The Ethics Hotline is operated and staffed by members of the Onondaga County Bar Association's Committee on Professional Ethics (the "Committee"). These volunteers respond to inquiries made by lawyers admitted in New York who face ethical questions regarding their own prospective conduct. The purpose of the Hotline is to provide informal guidance to callers in accordance with the New York Rules of Professional Conduct (the "New York Rules"). Any information provided in response to a Hotline inquiry is merely the opinion of the Committee member answering the call. It is not the opinion of the Committee as a whole. The information provided in response to a Hotline inquiry does not constitute legal advice. If the matter involves complex issues, or implicates a substantive area of law, you may wish to retain professional ethics counsel.

Callers should be aware of the following guidelines before calling the Ethics Hotline:

1. The Hotline only provides guidance to lawyers admitted to practice in New York about the New York Rules.
2. The Hotline only provides guidance concerning the caller's own prospective conduct. We do not answer questions about past conduct or the conduct of other lawyers.
3. The Hotline does not provide legal advice or answer questions of law.
4. The Hotline does not provide answers to hypothetical questions nor inquiries which have also been submitted to another bar association's ethics committee.
5. The Hotline does not answer questions about the unlicensed practice of law (UPL). UPL is governed by statutory law, not the New York Rules and is, therefore, outside the Committee's jurisdiction.
6. The Hotline provides general guidance. Due to the limited information we can obtain during a brief and informal telephone conversation, we cannot provide a definitive answer to Hotline questions.
7. The Hotline does not answer questions where the issue itself is the matter of a pending legal proceeding or is before a grievance committee.
8. Although it is the Committee's policy to maintain confidentiality of all Hotline inquiries, callers should be aware that the information is not protected by the attorney-client privilege or RPC 1.6.
9. The Ethics Hotline does not respond to complaints or inquiries regarding unethical conduct of other lawyers. Any such complaints or inquiries should be addressed to the Grievance or Disciplinary Committee for the county in which the lawyer practices (see <http://www.nycourts.gov/attorneys/grievance/>).
10. Lawyers who call the Ethics Hotline are required to provide their full name and telephone numbers.

If, after speaking with someone on the Hotline, a New York lawyer wishes to obtain a written Informal Opinion from the Committee, he or she may submit a written request. Please review the guidelines for requesting an Informal Opinion here (See attached guidelines – need hyperlink to the document). As with Hotline questions, the Committee's Informal Opinions are limited to interpreting the New York Rules. Please be aware that the Committee cannot provide a concrete timeline for responding to written requests. If your matter is urgent, you may wish to retain professional ethics counsel.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP

The United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit invites applications from qualified candidates for a 14-year appointment as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Vermont at Burlington, Vermont. The selection process will be confidential and competitive. Applicants will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

The current annual salary of a United States Bankruptcy Judge is \$201,112.

The Second Circuit uses an open and competitive selection process. All applications are screened by a Merit Selection Committee. The Committee will review applicants using the following criteria: legal competence evidenced by experience with complex legal issues; an aptitude for legal scholarship and writing; familiarity with the courts and court processes; commitment to equal justice under the law; characteristics indicative of a sound judicial temperament; a reputation for integrity, good character and ethical behavior; and physical and mental health sufficient to meet the demands and tenure of the position. The Merit Selection Committee will select a limited number of applicants for interview and will conduct appropriate due diligence inquiries into the candidates' backgrounds and qualifications. Upon a majority vote of the Second Circuit Judicial Council, the Council will forward the Merit Selection Committee's Report with any recommendations or comments to the active judges of the Court of Appeals. The selected nominee will be required to satisfy FBI and IRS background investigations prior to appointment.

Basic qualifications for consideration include:

1. Membership in good standing of at least one state bar, the District of Columbia bar, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico bar, and never other than membership in good standing of every bar of which the applicant has been a member; and
2. A minimum of five years of legal practice experience.

Application forms are posted on the Court's website at <http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov> or may be obtained by calling (212) 857-8700.

Completed application packages must be in the format required by the Second Circuit and received no later than June 30, 2021.



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
360 ADAMS STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11201
(347) 296-1527

LAWRENCE K. MARKS
Chief Administrative Judge

JEFFREY S. SUNSHINE
Statewide Coordinating Judge for
Matrimonial Cases

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. George J. Silver
Hon. Vito C. Caruso

FROM: Hon. Jeffrey S. Sunshine

DATE: May 14, 2021

RE: Filing Separation Agreements with the County Clerk Pursuant to DRL§170(6)

DRL § 170(6) provides that if a separation agreement is to be the basis for a conversion divorce assuming all requirements of the statute are satisfied, it must be filed with the County Clerk's Office where either party resides, but the statute permits the filing of a memorandum of the agreement instead of the agreement.

In those counties utilizing NYSCEF, in order to file a separation agreement pursuant to DRL§170(6) in the Court Record, an index number is required pursuant to CPLR § 8018 together with the \$35 filing fee pursuant to CPLR §8020(d). This is the practice that has been utilized in many Counties and the same index number is then utilized to obtain a judgment of separation (so there is an enforceable order to effectuate the agreement) or eventually to obtain a divorce after the one year period has expired if there is compliance pursuant to DRL§170(6). These documents filed through NYSCEF are sealed pursuant to DRL§ 235 and available only to the parties and their retained counsel.

In some jurisdictions, however, the separation agreement is filed with the County Clerk for a \$5 filing fee pursuant to CPLR 8021(b) as a county miscellaneous filing not in the records of the Court or the Unified Court System, and the filing is not part of the NYSCEF file or that of the County Clerk as clerk of the court. Since the statute does not distinguish the data base required, it imposes a filing requirement on the County Clerk. In those instances, that county

miscellaneous filing should be made in person or pursuant to EDDS in accordance with the local procedures established by the County Clerk's office.

If the filing is done as a miscellaneous county filing rather than through NYSCEF, it should be filed either as a memorandum or, if the entire agreement is filed, as a sealed document. Both options are permitted under DRL§170(6) so that the contents remain confidential. This will prevent an accidental disclosure in violation of DRL§235 by the County Clerk, who is also the clerk of the court. DRL§235 provides in pertinent part that an officer of the court with whom a written agreement of separation is filed, shall not permit a copy of the "written agreement of separation or memorandum thereof, ..., or any examination or perusal thereof, to be taken by any other person than a party, or the attorney or counsel of a party, except by order of the court."

Please distribute this memorandum to Judges and Court Attorney Referees assigned to matrimonial matters, and appropriate staff. Questions about this memorandum may be directed to Susan Kaufman, Counsel to the Statewide Coordinating Judge for Matrimonial Cases, at skaufma1@nycourts.gov.

cc: Hon. Lawrence Marks
Administrative Judges
Hon. Edwina Mendelson
Nancy Barry
Eileen Millett
Jeffrey Carucci
Scott Murphy
Linda Dunlap Miller
Lisa Smith
District Executives
NYC Chief Clerks
County Clerks
Susan Kaufman



EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITY
ANNOUNCEMENT
STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

PLEASE POST
ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 5107

A position will be filled in one of the following titles and will be dependent on the qualifications of the applicant selected.

POSITION TITLE: ASSOCIATE COURT ATTORNEY (TRIAL PART) JG - 29

BASE SALARY: \$102,815

QUALIFICATIONS: Admission to the New York State Bar and Five (5) years of relevant legal experience, including up to 18 months of pre-admission experience.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK: Associate Court Attorneys (Trial Part) research and analyze complex and difficult legal issues and questions and perform other related duties. They serve in a confidential capacity and under supervision for judges or groups of judges in Family and District Court; County and Surrogate's Courts in counties with populations less than 400,000; the Criminal Court and the Civil Court of the City of New York, and in City Courts with two or more full-time judges. Associate Court Attorneys (Trial Part) may be assigned to judges designated as Acting Justices of the Supreme Court for one full term or less.

POSITION TITLE: SENIOR COURT ATTORNEY (TRIAL PART) JG - 25

BASE SALARY: \$83,034

QUALIFICATIONS: Admission to the New York State Bar and Two (2) years of relevant legal experience, including up to 18 months of pre-admission experience.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK: Senior Court Attorneys (Trial Part) research and analyze complex and difficult legal issues and questions and perform other related duties. They serve in a confidential capacity and under supervision for judges or groups of judges in Family and District Court; County and Surrogate's Courts in counties with populations less than 400,000; the Criminal Court and the Civil Court of the City of New York, and in City Courts with two or more full-time judges. Senior Court Attorneys (Trial Part) may be assigned to judges designated as Acting Justices of the Supreme Court for one full term or less.

POSITION TITLE: COURT ATTORNEY (TRIAL PART) JG - 23

BASE SALARY: \$74,478

QUALIFICATIONS: Admission to the New York State Bar or Graduation from an accredited law school and admission to the New York State Bar within eighteen (18) months of appointment.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK: Court Attorneys (Trial Part) research and analyze legal issues and questions and perform other related duties. They serve in a confidential capacity and under supervision for judges or groups of judges in Family and District Court; County and Surrogate's Courts in counties with populations less than 400,000; the Criminal Court and the Civil Court of the City of New York, and in City Courts with two or more full-time judges. Court Attorneys (Trial Part) may be assigned to judges designated as Acting Justices of the Supreme Court for one full term or less.

LOCATION: 5th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
SYRACUSE CITY COURT

CLASSIFICATION: NON-COMPETITIVE/CONFIDENTIAL

ASSIGNMENT: This position is assigned to the Syracuse City Court. Duties include, but are not limited to: researching and analyzing legal questions and issues; conferring with and advising judges on legal issues; writing confidential legal memoranda and recommending decisions; drafting confidential opinions, decisions, orders, and correspondence; and arranging and conducting conferences with litigants and other parties to action. Travel may be required.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work performed by persons assigned to this title. They do not include all job duties performed by employees in the title, and every position does not necessarily require these duties. Although a position is available and situated at a specific location, the appointee may be subject to reassignment to any position in the same title in this promotion unit dependent upon the needs of the Unified Court System. All applications received from this announcement may be used to fill any vacancies in this title that may occur in this court or agency within the next six (6) months. Position(s) available at the present time: 1.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES: All interested persons meeting the minimum qualifications are encouraged to submit a UCS-5 Application for Employment form (obtainable from any administrative office in a court building or on the web at www.nycourts.gov/careers/UCS5.pdf) and a resume and cover letter to:

DONALD C. DOERR, ESQ.
DISTRICT EXECUTIVE
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
600 SOUTH STATE STREET, ROOM 300
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13202

APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE THE EEO DATA COLLECTION FORM.

POSTING DATE: May 14, 2021

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY: June 7, 2021

The New York State Unified Court System is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender (including pregnancy and gender identity or expression), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

County Attorney

County Attorney
KEVIN D. EARL, ESQ.

Deputy County Attorney
PAULA A. CAMPBELL, ESQ.

Old Courthouse
7 Main Street
Batavia, New York 14020-3199
(585) 344-2550 Ext. 2205
Kevin.Earl@co.genesee.ny.us

Assistant County Attorneys
TINA M. KASPEREK, ESQ.
ANDREA R. CLATTENBURG, ESQ.
MELISSA L. CIANFRINI, ESQ.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY NOTICE COUNTY OF GENESEE ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

This position involves responsibility for assisting the County Attorney in representing Genesee County and performing all duties pertaining to the County Attorney's office as may be directed by the County Attorney with the vast majority of the responsibilities involving representing the Genesee County Department of Social Services (DSS)

AVAILABILITY: Immediately upon hiring completion

COMPENSATION: \$66,254 - \$83,812, depending upon experience, with retirement and health benefits
Position is eligible for Loan Forgiveness Program.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: License to practice law in the State of New York.

DUTIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Represent DSS in proceedings and actions involving child abuse, child neglect, child support, foster care and termination of parental rights.
2. Process adult protective proceedings
3. Process claims against estates and individuals financially responsible for public assistance recipients
4. Medicaid Lien recovery
5. Provide legal advice and consultation to DSS Personnel for matters relating to children's services, family services, adult services, paternity and financial assistance.
6. Prosecute and defend appeals as assigned
7. Prosecute Juvenile delinquents, persons in need of supervision and Family Offenses in Family Court
8. Provide ongoing legal advice and initiate legal actions as required by the County Attorney and the DSS Commissioner
9. Assist the County Attorney and other Departments as assigned by the County Attorney

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT: Successful completion of a background investigation will be required prior to appointment. Special requirements apply to an appointment made in the Child Support Unit within the Department of Social Services.

SUBMIT RESUME WITH GENESEE COUNTY APPLICATION (www.co.genesee.ny.us) TO:
Kevin D. Earl, Esq., Genesee Co. Attorney, 7 Main St., Batavia, NY



HISCOCK LEGAL AID SOCIETY

1949

FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY

About Hiscock Legal Aid: Hiscock Legal Aid (HLA), founded in 1949, is a non-profit agency located in Syracuse, New York and is the primary provider of legal services to low-income individuals in Central New York. HLA promotes the right of every person to equal justice under the law by providing high-quality legal assistance to individuals and families in need. For more information, please visit www.hlalaw.org.

About the Position: The Hiscock Legal Aid Society, located in Syracuse, New York, seeks an attorney to join its Family Court Program and represent adult clients in family law matters, including Family Offense, Abuse/Neglect, Custody/Visitation, and Support Violation cases. Our attorneys appear before the judges, court attorney referees, and support magistrates of Onondaga County Family Court on a daily basis. Attorneys in the Family Court Program are very passionate and knowledgeable and routinely collaborate on cases to provide strong, zealous advocacy for clients. HLA works as a team to provide clients holistic representation and to provide attorneys with access to a vast amount of knowledge and experience, including practice areas beyond family court. The Family Court Program team includes law assistants and other support staff who assist attorneys with daily tasks, including but not limited to service, screening, scheduling, discovery, correspondence and client advocacy. Our more experienced attorneys are provided with opportunities and encouraged to present at CLEs and other legal platforms or community events.

Required Qualifications: Demonstrated commitment to public-interest law and to serving low-income persons. Admission or pending admission to New York Bar.

Preferred Qualifications: Ability to multi-task while remaining detail-oriented. Strong written and oral advocacy skills. Diverse economic, social, and/or cultural experiences.

Salary: Depends on experience.

Benefits: Excellent fringe benefits including generous leave, health, dental, and optical insurance, 401(k) retirement plan, and a great work environment.

Start Date: As soon as mutually agreeable.

Application Instructions: Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and list of three references to Gregory W. Dewan, Esq., Deputy Executive Director, at hring@hlalaw.org.

Hiscock Legal Aid is an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities, experiences, and communities to apply.



HISCOCK LEGAL AID SOCIETY

PROMOTING JUSTICE FOR ALL SINCE 1949

PAROLE REVOCATION DEFENSE ATTORNEY

About Hiscock Legal Aid: Hiscock Legal Aid (HLA), founded in 1949, is a non-profit agency located in Syracuse, New York and is the primary provider of legal services to low-income individuals in Central New York. HLA promotes the right of every person to equal justice under the law by providing high-quality legal assistance to individuals and families in need. For more information, please visit www.hlalaw.org.

About the Position: Hiscock Legal Aid seeks an attorney committed to indigent defense for its Parole Program. The Society provides representation in parole revocation proceedings in Onondaga County. This position includes, when health conditions allow, frequent client interaction at the local and county jails, representation at preliminary and final revocation hearings, performing legal research, and filing writs of habeas corpus.

Required Qualifications: Excellent communication, writing & oral advocacy skills required. Demonstrated commitment to public-interest law and to indigent defense. Admission or pending admission to New York Bar.

Preferred Qualifications: Parole or trial experience. Ability to multi-task while remaining detail-oriented. Strong written and oral advocacy skills. Diverse economic, social, and/or cultural experiences.

Salary: Depends on experience.

Benefits: Excellent fringe benefits including generous leave, health, dental, and optical insurance, 401(k) retirement plan, and a great work environment.

Start Date: As soon mutually agreeable.

Application Instructions: Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and list of three references to Gregory W. Dewan, Esq., Deputy Executive Director, at hire@hlalaw.org.

The position will be open until filled.

Hiscock Legal Aid is an equal opportunity employer, committed to inclusive hiring and dedicated to diversity in our work and staff. We strongly encourage candidates of all identities, experiences, and communities to apply.



POINTERS FOR PRACTICE IN POST-COVID LITIGATION

CHALK UP YOUR SUCCESS IN COURT TO BEING
PREPARED + READY TO PRESENT AT YOUR BEST
JOIN US FOR THIS SERIES!

PLAN AHEAD -- SAVE THESE WEDNESDAY DATES!

- June 2 Conferences & Communications
- June 9 Discovery
- June 16 Motions
- June 23 Pretrials/Trials
- June 30 Advice from the Bench

**CLE Timing:
Noon to 1:30 pm**

COST: \$100 for the entire series, \$30 per course
MCLE: 1.5 each, category varies per course

VIA ZOOM!

Presenters include:

- The Hon. James P. Murphy • Marty Lynn, Esq. • Brandon King, Esq. • Joshua Gillette, Esq.
Jean Marie Westlake, Esq. • Sandra Sabourin, Esq. • Loretta Kilpatrick, Esq.
Graeme Spicer, Esq. • Aaron Ryder, Esq.
The Hon. John V. Centra • The Hon. Gregory Gilbert • The Hon. Donald Greenwood
The Hon. Ann L. Magnarelli