

FEATURES

PRESIDENT'S
COLUMN

WBA
FOUNDATION

COMMITTEE
& FORUM
HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Join WBA at Stars of the Bar on September 20

[Click to navigate](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 *WBA to Honor Those Who Dare to Make an Impact*

- 4 *WBA Launches #OurBodiesOurVoices*

- 4 *NAWJ Launches #WeToo in the Legal Workplace Initiative at Legislative Caucus on Capitol Hill*

- 5 *WBA Tips and Resources: Useful Legislative & Regulatory Resources Online*

- 7 *In Memoriam: June D.W. Kalijarvi*

- 8 *President's Column*

- 10 *WBA Foundation News*

- 11 *Committee & Forum Highlights*

- 13 *Upcoming Events*

WBA to Honor Those Who Dare to Make an Impact

The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia will honor grassroots organization leaders who are leading the way in the current fight against immigration policies and enforcement that separate families. We will recognize their work in advocating on behalf of immigrants and speaking out against recent policies that threaten the legal protections of immigrants.

article continued on page 1

WBA Launches #OurBodiesOurVoices

WBA has launched a campaign entitled #OurBodiesOurVoices. We firmly believe that women have a right to control their own bodies. Thus, it is a necessity to maintain the landmark decision made by the United States Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*.

article continued on page 4

NAWJ Launches #WeToo in the Legal Workplace Initiative at Legislative Caucus on Capitol Hill

On July 18, 2018, National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) President, Honorable Tanya R. Kennedy, New York State Supreme Court, and Congressional Women's Caucus Co-Chairs, Congresswomen Susan Brooks and Lois Frankel, hosted an audience of 50, including congresswomen, judges, attorneys, and staffers, in a meeting to ensure that women can thrive in healthy work environments, free of sexual harassment and intimidation.

article continued on page 4

Features

WBA to Honor Those Who Dare to Make an Impact (continued from page 1)

Stars of the Bar will be held Thursday, September 20, 2018, from 6:00-8:00pm in the atrium lobby of Hogan Lovells at Columbia Square.

Each year the WBA honors star-quality lawyers at Stars of the Bar, which also kicks off our program year. Our theme for this 2018-2019 bar year “Dare to Make an Impact,” acknowledges that while we have made great advances over the past 101 years, our work is far from done. Now is not the time to be fatigued or discouraged. It is the time to continue to stand up and be heard. WBA does this in several ways, including providing a voice on legislation that impacts women and girls, becoming more involved with the community, and offering legal expertise to organizations who support our cause.

This year’s Stars of the Bar are:

- Paula Fitzgerald, Executive Director, Ayuda
- Michael Lukens, Pro Bono Director, Operations Director, CAIR Coalition
- Natalie Roisman, Member of the National Leadership Team, Lawyer Moms of America
- Wendy Young, President, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)



Paula Fitzgerald

Paula Fitzgerald is the executive director of Ayuda, an organization that provides legal, social, and language services to help vulnerable immigrants access justice and transform their lives. Ayuda helps immigrants from anywhere in the world navigate the immigration and justice systems and access the social safety net.

Paula previously served as managing attorney at Ayuda’s Virginia office, and as an immigration staff attorney. Prior to joining Ayuda in 2008, Paula served as an immigration staff attorney at Hogar Hispano of the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, and as an associate at Hunton & Williams LLP.

Paula’s immigration legal work focuses on humanitarian relief for individuals, children, and families, including VAWA self-

petitions, U visas, T visas, and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status petitions. She also has extensive experience in family-based immigration matters, consular processing, waivers and NACARA cases. Paula credits her parents with instilling the values that led her to her work. Her mother, a Colombian immigrant, was a social worker at a school with a large Latino immigrant population. Her father worked as a psychologist for the mentally ill at Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital.

Paula earned her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.



Michael Lukens

Michael Lukens joined CAIR Coalition in 2014. The CAIR Coalition is committed to keeping families together by working with and for immigrant men, women, and children facing detention and deportation.

Their services include legal representation, educational outreach, impact and advocacy work, and

the training of attorneys who defend immigrants in the immigration and criminal justice arenas.

Michael serves as the CAIR Coalition liaison to law firms and the broader non-profit community, as well as directly represents children in removal proceedings. He is responsible for the oversight of the screening, placement, and mentoring of pro bono cases with members of the private bar. Michael also oversees all aspects of CAIR Coalition’s operations.

Prior to joining CAIR Coalition, Michael was a senior associate at Paul Hastings where he focused on environmental matters and served as the Pro Bono Coordinator for the firm’s DC Office. In addition to his commercial portfolio and pro bono responsibilities, Michael worked on many direct representation matters for pro bono clients, including immigration, non-profit governance, landlord/tenant, and contract matters.

Michael received his J.D. from Hofstra School of Law.

Natalie Roisman is an attorney, strategist, connector, and coalition builder with nearly 20 years of experience crafting regulatory policy advocacy

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Natalie Roisman

strategies. She has been a partner at Wilkinson Barker Knauer (WBK) since 2008, where she is the founding chair of the WBK's Women's Initiative, co-chairs the firm's Diversity Task Force, and is a member and former chair of the firm's Associate Development Committee. At WBK, she advises clients on a wide range of policy and regulatory issues before the Federal Communications Commission, Federal Trade Commission, Department of Commerce, and other agencies. Natalie previously worked in the federal government and at an AmLaw 100 firm.

Natalie is a longstanding member and leader of the WBA, where she currently co-chairs the Membership Committee.

In June 2018, Natalie joined with a small group of other attorneys who are mothers to help launch Lawyer Moms of America. These "lawyer moms," who initially knew each other only through online lawyer networking groups, were united by a refusal to tolerate the inhumane and illegal separation of migrant children from their parents in the purported name of U.S. border security. They grew from a handful on Facebook to more than 10,000 members in a little over a week, to nearly 18,000 members in less than two months. Since June, Lawyer Moms of America has organized a nationwide campaign to deliver an open letter to Members of Congress in more than 325 district offices, partnered with and provided legal support to the Grannies Respond caravan to the border, supplied airline miles and facilitated pro bono legal assistance for separated migrant families, held family lemonade stand fundraisers in nearly 40 states through their "Kids Take a Stand" campaign, and raised more than \$50,000 to support Project Corazon's provision of legal services to migrant families. The group is nonpartisan and welcomes members and supporters who are not lawyers or parents. This fall, Lawyer Moms of America will work to ensure voters know exactly where their Members of Congress, Senators, other elected officials, and their challengers stand on the issue of family separation and family detention. Lawyer Moms of America believes that activism works, constituent pressure works, and unconscionable practices will not stand on their watch.

Natalie earned her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



Wendy Young

Wendy Young has led KIND since 2009, and brings extensive immigration policy experience to the organization. Prior to KIND, she served as Chief Counsel on Immigration Policy in the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Refugees for Senator Edward M. Kennedy. She held prior immigration policy positions with organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Women's Refugee Commission, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the National Council of La Raza. She has

also written numerous articles, reports and cutting-edge op-eds on the plight of unaccompanied children.

KIND staff and pro bono attorney partners at law firms, corporations, and law schools nationwide represent unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children in their deportation proceedings. KIND ensures that no child appears in immigration court alone without high quality representation, advances laws, policies, and practices that support children's protection and uphold their right to due process and fundamental fairness, and encourages durable solutions to child migration that are grounded in the best interests of the child and ensure that no child is forced to migrate involuntarily.

Wendy earned a joint law degree and master's degree in international relations from American University.



Kate Mueting

The Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award will also be presented. This year's recipient is **Kate Mueting**, a partner in the Washington, DC office of Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLP. This award was established to recognize women who go above and beyond through volunteer activities within the WBA. Kate has made exemplary contributions as co-chair of WBA's Membership Committee.

She has been tirelessly working towards WBA's goal of 1,000 members.

In her practice, Kate represents employees with a wide range of employment claims, including discrimination on the basis of gender, pregnancy, race, and disability and other civil rights claims.

There is no charge to attend Stars of the Bar. The event is attended by leaders in the DC legal community, women and men alike, who gather to network in a relaxed, yet polished setting. Attendees have an opportunity to meet with members of the WBA and WBA Foundation Boards, and co-chairs of WBA's committee and forums, to learn about the programs and activities planned for the coming bar year.

Registration and sponsorship information can be found on wbadc.org.

Features

WBA Launches #OurBodiesOurVoices (continued from page 1)


WBA *Stands Up*
#OurBodiesOurVoices

This is particularly important in light of the recent nomination of Judge Kavanaugh, which if successful, may put Roe in danger of being overturned.

Recent polling shows an overwhelming and unwavering public support for upholding Roe, with 72% of Americans against Roe being overturned. We cannot revert back to the pre-Roe days where women suffered and died for trying to terminate a pregnancy. It has been reported that before Roe, 1.2 million American women sought illegal abortions every year. Some 5,000 of them died from complications.

The purpose of the #OurBodiesOurVoices campaign is to encourage women and men to come out of the dark and share their personal stories about their decision to terminate a pregnancy. You can view these stories on our Facebook page: facebook.com/WBADC.

If you are interested in sharing your story, feel free to post your video to our timeline or email it to OurBodiesOurVoices@wbadc.org. We welcome stories from women and men, lawyers and nonlawyers.

NAWJ Launches #WeToo in the Legal Workplace Initiative at Legislative Caucus on Capitol Hill (continued from page 1)

This collaborative effort served as a catalyst for the **#WeToo in the Legal Workplace** initiative.

As part of its #OurVoices campaign, representatives of the WBA served on the planning committee and sponsored this event.

"We have tried to find issues where we can work together, and one of those issues is sexual harassment," said Congresswoman Lois Frankel.

The meeting was highlighted by a panel session that was moderated by Nicole Austin-Hillery, Executive Director of the Human Rights Watch's U.S. Program, and featured

Chai R. Feldblum, Commissioner, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); Susan E. Huhta, Outten & Golden LLP; Sadina Montani, Vedder Price and WBA Board member; and David J. Sachar, Arkansas Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission.

A 2016 EEOC Study states that "approximately one in four women (25%) reported experiencing 'sexual harassment' in the workplace." Congresswoman Susan Brooks added, "we have to eliminate sexual harassment in the workplace, and out of the workplace." The #WeToo in the Legal Workplace movement and this meeting (co-sponsored by the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia and the law firms



WBA board member Sadina Montani participated on the panel (second from right)



Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee reminds attendees that the Violence Against Women Act expires this year and it needs to be reauthorized.

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of McGuireWoods and Morgan Lewis) will be the impetus for the creation of educational sessions, workshops, training programs, marketing and social media campaigns, and defense funds to combat sexual harassment across the legal workplace.

NAWJ President Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy stated that “NAWJ is extremely grateful to be the recipient of a \$29,000 grant from the State Justice Institute, which will assist us in our efforts to create and implement educational and training programs and, therefore, empower women to thrive in healthy work environments, free from sexual harassment and discrimination.”

Since its formation in 1979, NAWJ has inspired and led the American judiciary in achieving fairness and equality for vulnerable populations. NAWJ's mission is to promote the judicial role of protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law through strong, committed, diverse judicial leadership; fairness and equality in the courts; and equal access to justice.

The Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues (CCWI) is a Congressional Member Organization (CMO) registered with the House Administration Committee; its membership includes the women Members of the House of Representatives.

WBA Tips and Resources: Useful Legislative & Regulatory Resources Online

By Cathy Pagano, WBA Board member, and Michelle Johnson-Weider



Cathy Pagano

As part of WBA's efforts to provide useful resources to our members, we have compiled some suggested links to several free online legislative and regulatory resources. In addition, for those interested in advanced education, we include several ideas, contributed by WBA member Michelle Johnson-Weider. This includes a description of her excellent experience with the online LL.M program at the University of Arkansas.



Michelle Johnson-Weider

Legislative and Regulatory Research Materials Online:

Below are several useful resources to aid in research about legislative and regulatory materials. We hope these will be helpful when you are asked to interpret legislation or write legislative or regulatory materials.

Legislative Materials and Resources

Congress.gov is the official website for U.S. federal legislative information, presented by the Library of Congress. It contains a wealth of information both about current legislation and about the legislative process generally. This site also contains many links to other source information including the U.S. Code, the Congressional Record, and other sources. Congress.gov allows you to search for current federal legislation by bill number or topic, and it will present bill text as well as bill status information. The site also includes nine short videos explaining the legislative process. **Videos** include introduction and referral of bills, committee consideration, calendars and scheduling, House Floor, Senate Floor, Executive Business in the Senate, Resolving Differences and Presidential Action.

Congress.gov also has a handy guide, called **Resources A to Z**, which includes a directory of help pages, research guides, lists, popular saved searches, and more.

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Congress.gov also has a page containing **U.S. Founding Documents**, to assist with study of several primary American History source documents. This page includes links to the U.S. Constitution, an annotated Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Federalist Papers, and the Declaration of Independence.

The **Congressional Research Service (CRS)** serves congressional committees and Members of Congress, assisting with comprehensive research and policy analysis throughout the legislative process. In addition to other services, CRS prepares reports that analyze complex topics and policies from different perspectives and summarize material in clear language for congressional use. Many of these enlightening CRS Reports soon will be made available to the public thanks to language in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-141, signed March 23, 2018). Language in that act directed the Librarian of Congress, with the CRS Director, to establish and maintain a public website that will contain written CRS products available on CRS.gov. The Library of Congress and CRS are working to make the products required under this act available by mid-September 2018.

Regulatory Resources

For those writing regulatory documents, the **Office of the Federal Register**, National Archives and Records Administration website has compiled useful information and training materials.

This website contains handy **Document Drafting Resources**, including a **Document Drafting Handbook**, which gives Federal agencies guidance and examples for drafting Federal Register documents.

This website also contains a helpful resource guide, “**Drafting Legal Documents**,” presented as an effort to help agencies develop clearly written, enforceable regulatory documents.

Educational Resources

Advanced Education

Michelle Johnson-Weider, who is currently pursuing her LL.M. in Agricultural and Food Law from the **University of Arkansas School of Law** highly recommends the program for anyone interested in the subject. The program was established more than 30 years ago as the first advanced legal degree program in the U.S. focusing on food and agriculture and the curriculum spans the breadth of legal issues “from farm to fork”. Because she works full-time, she participates as a part-time distance student. The program embraces students like her: live-streaming classes using advanced video-conferencing software that allow students to participate as if they were right there in the classroom. When work and class time conflict, students can view class recordings and submit journal assignments in lieu of live-time participation. Michelle has flown to Fayetteville twice to attend week-long condensed classes in person and found that to be a wonderful experience as well.

The LL.M. program requires 24 credits, which is one year of full-time attendance or can be spread over as long as four years for part-time students. Distance students are eligible to enroll at low in-state Arkansas tuition rates.



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Courses and Certificates

The Government Affairs Institute (GAI) has offered courses about Capitol Hill since 1965. It was originally part of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. In 1995, GAI was privatized, and in 1997, it became affiliated with Georgetown University and the McCourt School of Public Policy. The mission of GAI is to provide education and training about congressional processes, organization, and practices, and about certain legislative policy issues. Costs vary depending upon the class. GAI also offers the GAI Certificate Program in Legislation Studies for those who wish to further their education in this area.

International Legislative Conference

The annual International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform focuses on how laws are written here in the U.S. and around the world, at the international, national and subnational levels. Speakers and participants come from around the globe. This gathering provides a unique opportunity for experts from a wide range of areas to meet and share best practices and ideas about the legislative process and law reform. The conferences have taken place in Washington, D.C.

For more information, contact Cathy Pagano, cvpages10101@gmail.com, and Michelle Johnson-Weider, johnsonweider@gmail.com, for the Capital Area Policy Counsel Workgroup.

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Congress.gov: congress.gov/
Legislative Process Videos: congress.gov/legislative-process
Resources A to Z: congress.gov/resources/display/content/Resources+A+to+Z
U.S. Founding Documents: congress.gov/founding-documents
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Government Affairs Institute: gai.georgetown.edu
GAI Certificate Program in Legislation Studies: gai.georgetown.edu/courses-programs/certificate-program
International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform: ilegis.org

In Memoriam: June D.W. Kalijarvi



June Kalijarvi

The WBA mourns the loss of June D.W. Kalijarvi and extends its condolences to her family and colleagues at Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch.

June passed away on August 3, 2018. In 1975, she founded the firm that is today known as Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch and continued working until her passing. To those who worked with her, June's work-ethic, tenacity, tireless

advocacy, and boundless compassion were constant sources of inspiration.

June had a nationwide reputation among her clients and fellow attorneys as an aggressive and fearless advocate. She was frequently asked to conduct classes, lectures and seminars on employment law and was a consistent participant in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's EXCEL Program, designed to enhance the skills of private and agency attorneys at EEOC hearings.

June was a graduate of Wellesley College (B.A., 1963) and received her Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees from the Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 1973; LL.M., 1975). After graduating from law school in 1973, June worked at the Law Center, directing the Juris Doctor/Master of Science in Foreign Services (JD-MSFS) joint degree program. June's father had been an Ambassador when she was a child, and her interest in the Foreign Service continued throughout her practice. Prior to her death, June was beginning work on a book about practicing before the Foreign Service Grievance Board.

Despite being one of the few women graduating from a top law school, June was unable to find a legal position. That rejection enhanced her understanding of the issues that arise between employers and employees, and she was determined to start her own practice.

In 1975, she started her own law firm, among the first in Washington, DC to represent federal employees with discrimination claims. June had a passion for litigation and was described by her clients as "an honest, respectful, and caring person with common sense." She was described by her opposing counsel, respectfully, as a tenacious advocate for her clients and their claims. In 1978, June hired George Chuzi as her law clerk, and the two practiced together ever since.

June was a sustaining member of the WBA and Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch is an *All in for Women* firm.



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President's Column

By Yolanda Hawkins-Bautista, WBA President; Associate General Counsel, Legal Division, Litigation



Yolanda Hawkins-Bautista

Daring to Make an Impact in the Face of Controversy

Recently, I was asked, “Why is the WBA taking a position on Brett Kavanaugh’s nomination and advocating to uphold *Roe v. Wade*?” My response was that it is in our DNA to stand up for women and to be an advocate on issues that will negatively impact women. Daring to make an impact is not always easy, but the WBA has consistently been steadfast in fighting for women’s rights and equality. This is true today, and particularly pertinent given the current climate in which we find ourselves. In such a short period of time serving as your WBA President, we have had to alter our agenda to address issues that have arisen that put women’s rights and access to justice in jeopardy. Some may question whether we should opine on issues that are political or controversial in nature. But as I stated in my annual dinner remarks, “Who Dares Nothing Need Hope for Nothing.”

Oftentimes to guide our course of action in the present moment, we have to review and leverage what we have done in the past. The WBA has always been in the forefront on controversial issues. From the beginning of its inception, the WBA founders and

its members fought to break down barriers.

In the 1920s, our members marched on Washington to demand the right to vote not only for women, but also for the citizens of DC. During the Civil Rights movement, the WBA fought for racial equality and supported the passage of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts. Throughout our history, the WBA has not shied away from controversial issues. Indeed, the WBA blazed trails by drafting and advocating for legislation that provided equality for women and lobbied for the Equal Rights Amendment. As it relates to women’s access to healthcare and reproductive rights, “the WBA was part of a coalition supporting the federal Freedom of Choice Act that would guarantee the right to abortion even if *Roe v. Wade* was overturned and joined a campaign to support the ABA’s reproductive rights resolution. Both actions were in keeping with the membership’s vote in 1989 to take steps to protect women’s right to choose.” (*WBA 2017 Annual Dinner and Centennial Celebration, May 17, 2017 p. 60*). In addition to its external advocacy, the WBA also tackled internal controversy when the Honorable Joyce Hens Green and Dovey Johnson Roundtree broke the color barrier in pushing the WBA to admit its first African-American member.

It is with this backdrop that we set our direction in addressing issues that have presented themselves in this current legal and political environment. Even though the bar year is still young, we have risen to the challenge and have “Dared to Make an Impact.”

In keeping with our past activities to fight for women’s reproductive rights, we launched the #OurBodiesOurVoices campaign. The WBA firmly believes that women have a right to control their own bodies. Thus, the campaign encourages women and men to come out of the dark and share their personal stories about their decision to terminate a pregnancy. Several women have bravely shared their stories either in a

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video or anonymously. These stories demonstrate the necessity to maintain the landmark decision made by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*. This is particularly important in light of the nomination of Judge Kavanaugh, which, if successful, may put *Roe* in danger of being overturned.

Recent polling shows an overwhelming and unwavering public support for upholding *Roe*, with 72% of Americans against *Roe* being overturned. We cannot revert back to the pre-*Roe* days where women suffered and died for trying to terminate a pregnancy. It has been reported that before *Roe*, 1.2 million American women sought illegal abortions every year. Some 5,000 of them died from complications. To hear how the confirmation of Judge Kavanaugh will impact women's rights, join us in mid-September for

the "Supreme Court and the Impact of Kavanaugh's Nomination," event where we will feature speakers from the National Women's Law Center, Center for Reproductive Rights, MALDEF, and others.

As we begin our programming for the 2018-2019 bar year, the WBA will continue to break down barriers and be the voice for the voiceless. We will not lose sight of the great work that we have done but instead use the past as a building block to guide our footsteps as we fight to maintain our rights, advance women and women lawyers, work to promote justice, and maintain the honor and integrity of the profession.

Yolanda

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WBA Foundation News

WBA Foundation President's Letter

By *Bridget Bailey Lipscomb*, WBA
Foundation President

Calling All Legal Services Providers for Women and Girls in DC

It is application season for the Women's Bar Association Foundation (WBAF) grants. For 501(c)(3) organizations and organizations currently seeking 501(c)(3) status, who provide legal and related needs for women and girls in the DC metropolitan area, we invite you to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) for a WBAF grant. WBAF grants typically range from \$2,500 to 10,000.

Specific instructions can be found on the WBAF website: wbacfoundation.org. Applicants must submit a letter of intent by August 31, 2018. Grants will be awarded at the WBAF Annual Grant Awards Ceremony in March 2019.

The WBAF is proud of the good work our 2018 grantees have performed. They have provided legal services for immigrant, sex trafficking, domestic violence, child caregiver, pregnant women and parents, predatory lending, and elderly clients. Our 2018 grantees are Amara Legal Center, Bread for the City, DC KinCare Alliance, Volunteer Lawyers Project, Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project, First Shift Justice Project, Human Trafficking Legal Center, Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Tahirih Justice Center, and Tzedek DC.



Bridget Bailey Lipscomb

If you know a provider that will further the WBAF's mission to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in DC, please share this information and recommend that they apply. The WBAF seeks to fund diverse projects and takes pride in providing seed funding to young organizations and new programs.

For more information, email info@wbacfoundation.org.

Bridget



2018-2019 WBA Foundation Board

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OCTOBER 25, 2018

Committee & Forum Highlights

Financial Planning Panel Kicks off New Women and Finance Initiative

By Anna Ratner, Public Policy Counsel, CFP Board; WBA Board member



With women controlling more than half of the wealth in the United States and facing unique financial needs, the importance of comprehensive financial planning for women is growing. Our panel of experts at WBA's inaugural Women and Finance event on July 25, 2018 addressed this timely topic.

The panel of expert speakers at the "Introduction to Financial Planning 101" program included **Maureen Thompson**, Vice President of Public Policy at CFP Board; **Paige Rafferty**, Vice President at Dreyfuss Investment Management; and WBA Board member **Anna Ratner**, Public Policy Counsel at CFP Board. WBA board member **Charlotte Kuenen**, CFP®, Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley, moderated and presented.

Speakers engaged with approximately 30 audience members of diverse backgrounds in an interactive discussion on general topics surrounding financial planning and key considerations for women investors. They covered questions about the importance of financial planning, how to choose the right financial services professional for you, retirement planning, and the role of debt in planning.

The event was the first of a series of six programs on Women and Finance, a new strategic initiative launched by WBA president **Yolanda Hawkins-Bautista**. Women and Finance is one of seven strategic initiatives in the 2018-2019 bar year that support this year's theme of Dare to Make an Impact.

Although the financial power of women is growing, they encounter unique concerns when it comes to harnessing that power, panelists said. Studies have shown that women are often unable to find high quality financial planning professionals that understand their circumstances from

their perspective due to a lack of gender and racial diversity in the financial services industry. In the meantime, women's financial lifespan differs in certain respects, given that they are more likely to be widowed during retirement and often place their needs as a last priority.

Yet solutions exist. Women and men looking to take charge of their financial lives should consider the importance of having a financial plan. A comprehensive, goals-based financial plan can mean comfort, safety, and clarity, while being flexible enough to be revisited as life events occur. Choosing a financial advisor usually is the most crucial decision in making the plan a reality. When researching a financial advisor, some key questions to ask them are:

- What experience do you have?
- What are your qualifications?
- What financial planning services do you offer?
- What types of clients do you typically work with?
- How will I pay for your financial planning services?
- How much do you typically charge?
- Have you ever been publicly disciplined for any unlawful or unethical actions in your career?

In building a financial plan, debt and retirement do not need to be crippling considerations. Financial plans can incorporate programs that ease credit card and student loan debt. They can also build milestones for retirement savings and special considerations after retirement, such as anticipated and unexpected medical expenses.

Details of specific life situations will be covered at the next Women and Finance program on September 26, 2018 from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. at Skadden Arps. The upcoming event is titled "Advanced Financial Planning 102" and will cover planning for children's education, retirement planning, estate planning, special needs trusts, and planning for a pending divorce.

The WBA would like to thank **Skadden Arps** for hosting all six events of the Women and Finance series.

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women's initiative



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- Partner Ana Reyes named 2017 WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year.

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Welcome New Members

The following persons joined the WBA in June and July 2018.

Hiwa Alaghebandian
Danielle Barondess
Jessica Burke
Fatmata Bintu Conteh
Akua Coppock
Jordan Lynn Cramer
Heather D. Horton

Lanny Isimbi
Velvet Johnson
Michelle L. Johnson-Weider
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Nelly Sowa Montenegro
Regina Y. Speed-Bost
Harini Srinivasan

Maria D. Suarez
Nina Ritu Tandon
Stephanie Toussaint
Natischa Volpe
Emma Vosburgh
Erin Brantley Webb

For information regarding WBA Member Benefits and getting involved with a Committee or Forum, see [Membership & Benefits and Committees & Forums](#).



Join the WBA Today!

The WBA is committed to being the preeminent professional and personal resource for women at all points in their legal careers.

WBA offers many benefits and resources, just a few of which are:

- Discounted event registrations, including to our tailored programming, such as the Leadership Task Force, Solo & Small Practice Forum, and 20+ Years Expertise group
- Access to monthly Business Hour programs, held via teleconference, free and members only!
- Access to the online Job Bank, which lists career opportunities within private firms, corporations, the government, and non-profits
- Access to the Raising the Bar newsletter archive
- Participation in our mentoring program
- Listing in and access to the online Member Directory
- Access to numerous leadership and networking opportunities

Visit www.wbadc.org for information on membership categories and rates.

If you are already a member, share this opportunity with the women in your network. Together, we will make the WBA stronger as we stand up for and promote women in the profession.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 20, 2018

[Stars of the Bar](#)

The Stars of the Bar Fall Networking Reception kicks off the WBA's program year. It is typically attended by more than 300 women and men, including firm, nonprofit, and government attorneys, judges, law students, and leaders in the DC legal community. Stars of the Bar offers a professional and friendly environment to network with other attorneys, including WBA members and WBA and WBA Foundation leadership, and find out more about our programs and services.

This event is free to attend and open to the public, however registration is highly encouraged.

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

[New Member Reception](#)

Presented by Membership Committee

Members who have recently joined the Women's Bar Association are invited to join us for a New Member Reception. Guests will network with fellow new members of the WBA, as well as with our Board of Directors and co-chairs of our Committee and Forums. Join us and learn how to get involved with the WBA. Representatives from the WBA Foundation will also be in attendance to provide insight on the Foundation's activities. Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

[Advanced Financial Planning 102](#)

Presented by Women and Finance Committee

Topics to be covered include: Planning for children's education; Retirement planning; Estate planning/why wealth transfers fail; Special needs trusts; Planning when a divorce may be pending; etc.

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

[Insurance Solutions-Myth vs. Reality](#)

Presented by Women and Finance Committee

Topics to be covered include: Life insurance; Pros and cons of long term care insurance; Business succession and protections.

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

[Holiday Tea](#)

Presented by Communications Law Forum

Our highly-regarded and widely-attended annual Holiday Tea will be held in the beautifully-decorated St. Regis Hotel. With its abundant and delicious food, this afternoon high tea promises to be an elegant and festive event. It is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your friends! Register now; this event will sell out!

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

[2019 Market Outlook](#)

Presented by Women and Finance Committee

Topics to be covered include: What does the economy, business cycle, Fed interest rate policy, and geopolitics tell us about the investment outlook for 2019?; How to position your portfolio for "late business cycle" conditions; 2019 outlooks from multiple sources.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

[Real Estate Investing](#)

Presented by Women and Finance Committee

Topics to be covered include: Options and pros/cons of Real Estate Investing; REITs; Private equity options; Personal real estate investing.

Save the Dates:

March 6, 2019:

WBAF Grant Awards Ceremony

May 22, 2019:

WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner