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2010 Annual Dinner: White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, National Women's Law Center Co-Founder Nancy Duff Campbell, and Honoring Community Service

On May 25, 2010, the WBA celebrated a successful year of dedication to community service at its 2010 Annual Dinner. The Annual Dinner recognizes and supports the vital work of the WBA, its members, and its sister organization, the WBA Foundation.

The speakers and honorees at the Annual Dinner exemplified this year's theme of **Leadership Through Community Service**. Keynote Speaker **Valerie Jarrett** kicked off the evening, welcoming the more than 600 attendees to the celebration at the National Building Museum. Currently serving as Senior Advisor and Assistant to President Barack Obama for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, Ms. Jarrett also chairs the White House Council on Women and Girls.



WBA Foundation

WBA Foundation Announces New Board Members and Officers

The WBA Foundation recently voted to appoint three new members of the Board of Directors. The Foundation Board also held its election of officers.

Uniting for Justice -- The Women's Bar Association Foundation Grant Awards

"We aim to unite in our mission with each and every one of our friends, sponsors, students of the next generation, grantees and YOU!"

President's Column

Welcome to the 2010-2011 bar year for the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and this year's first issue of Raising the Bar. I am very proud to serve the WBA and its members as President this year. I encourage all of our members to get involved: This is going to be an exciting year!

This year, the WBA will begin to implement its three-year [Strategic Plan](#). The goal areas of the Strategic Plan include:

- Leadership Development and Succession Planning
- Development and Fundraising
- Member Programming
- Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women
- Strategic Planning



Year in Review: Committees and Forums

WBA delivers the majority of its programming through its 25 Committees and Forums, which address both career and personal development topics. In the 2010-2011 bar year, WBA hosted about 60 of these programs. Highlights of a few are below.

Want to learn more about WBA's Committees and Forums? Maybe you want to get involved in planning a program, or want to be added to a particular committee's email list? Join us for the [2010 Stars of the Bar Fall Networking Reception](#) on

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With these words, the Women's Bar Association Foundation (WBA Foundation) convened its first-ever Grant Awards Ceremony. On Tuesday, April 27, the Foundation Board welcomed and saluted the work of nine outstanding local non-profits that help women and girls in the Washington, DC region.



September 15, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the Hogan Lovells Atrium Lobby at Columbia Square, 555 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC. This is a great opportunity to meet the WBA Co-Chairs and learn more about their plans for the coming bar year.



Member News

- **WBA Members Named to Washington's Most Influential Women Lawyers**
- **WBA Members Elected to DC Bar and ABA Leadership Positions**
- **Two WBA Members Selected as Vision 2010 Delegates**
- **Welcome New WBA Members!**



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- [**Two WBA Members Selected as Vision 2010 Delegates**](#)
- [**WBA Members Chosen as Vision 2020 National Delegates for Washington, DC**](#)
- [**Welcome New WBA Members!**](#)

WBA Members Elected to DC Bar and ABA Leadership Positions

Congratulations to the WBA members who were recently elected to the DC Bar Board of Governors and ABA House of Delegates:

DC Bar Board of Governors
Darrell G. Mottley (President-Elect)
H. Guy Collier Jr.
Bridget Bailey Lipscomb
Lorelie S. Masters
R. Justin Smith

ABA House of Delegates
Karen M. Lockwood
Lucy L. Thomson



Two WBA Members Selected as Vision 2010 Delegates

Lorelie (Lorie) Masters, a Partner at Jenner & Block, WBA past president, and WBA Foundation board member, has been named a delegate for Vision 2020: An American Conversation About Women and Leadership. There are two delegates from each state and DC, each appointed to a three-year term. Delegates will participate in a project dedicated to creating a decade of education and action to promote gender equality, which will culminate in a 100th anniversary celebration of the 19th amendment October 2020.



WBA Members Chosen as Vision 2020 National Delegates for Washington, DC

More than 1,000 registered to nominate or become Vision 2020 National Delegates, (<http://www.drexel.edu/vision2020/community/vision/delegates>) but in the end it came down to 102 extraordinary women who will serve as chief advocates for women's leadership and equality in their home states. WBA members Kim Keenan and Lorelie S. Masters have been chosen as delegates for Washington, DC.

Vision 2020 is a national project focused on advancing gender equality by energizing the dialogue about women and leadership. Its first public event takes place on October 21-22, 2010, when a congress of national delegates, representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia, will meet at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia to launch an action agenda to move America toward equality by 2020, the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment. The name of the conference is Vision 2020: An American Conversation about Women and Leadership.

The national search for delegates focused on finding women who have demonstrated a commitment to helping women and girls. These delegates are willing to mobilize resources to bring about positive change and implement elements of the decade-long Vision 2020 agenda, signing on for a minimum three-year term following the conference.



Welcome New WBA Members!

Melissa Alcantara
Laurie A. Amell
Rosemarie Annunziata
Shilpa Reddy Aramada
Nazanin Baseri
Kathleen Anne Behan
Jeffrey L. Berger
Aisha Wilson Bond
Nata K. Brown
Amy L. Buxbaum
Cheryl Cepeda Beeker
Claudia A. Crichlow
Adela Cufe
Catherine S. Duval
Lisa Ellern-Feldman
Maia Ellis
Christine Dessa Ely
Rachel Hersh

Kris-Andra Houchins
Laura E. Jordan
Heather Klein
Jaime Klima
Patricia Larios
Pamela G. Levinson
Lara Levinson
Sandina Mathieu
Yvonne Ugonma Mbibi
Maura Cahill Merlis
Rachel Miras-Wilson
Rowan Morris
Debra Stewart Orbacz
Yajaira Ortiz-Wilson
Rory L. Pred
Tanikia Roberts Head
Kim M. Whatley

Cindy Robertson
Guly Sabahi
Kimberly A. Scardino
Rena Scheinkman
Roberta I. Shaffer
Laura Shin
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2010 Annual Dinner: White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett, National Women's Law Center Co-Founder Nancy Duff Campbell, and Honoring Community Service

By Sarah Tomkowiak, Latham & Watkins LLP



The distinguished head table for the 2010 Annual Dinner, l-r: 2010 Woman Lawyer of the Year Nancy Duff Campbell; 2010-2011 WBA President Holly E. Loiseau; 2010-2011 WBA Foundation President Diana M. Savit; Keynote Speaker Valerie Jarrett; 2010-2011 WBA President Consuela Pinto; 2010-2011 WBA Foundation President Tracy-Gene G. Durkin

On May 25, 2010, the WBA celebrated a successful year of dedication to community service at its 2010 Annual Dinner. The Annual Dinner recognizes and supports the vital work of the WBA, its members, and its sister organization, the WBA Foundation.

The speakers and honorees at the Annual Dinner exemplified this year's theme of **Leadership Through Community Service**. Keynote Speaker **Valerie Jarrett** kicked off the evening, welcoming the more than 600 attendees to the celebration at the National Building Museum. Currently serving as Senior Advisor and Assistant to President Barack Obama for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, Ms. Jarrett also chairs the White House Council on Women and Girls. Prior to joining the Obama administration, Ms. Jarrett served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Habitat Company, a director of several not for profit boards in Chicago, and held several positions in Chicago City government. Encouraging attendees to consider a career in public service, Ms. Jarrett offered insight from her own rewarding professional journey, which began at a private law firm.



Valerie Jarrett gave keynote remarks at the event.

Later in the evening, 2010-2011 WBA President **Consuela A. Pinto** provided the President's report, highlighting the WBA's focus on community service this past year. 2010-2011 WBA Foundation President **Diana M. Savit**, Savit & Szymkowicz, also remarked on the recent causes that have benefited from the WBA Foundation's grants, including a touching video featuring some of the causes.

"Leadership Through Community Service" is particularly fitting for the WBA's 2010 Woman Lawyer of the Year, Nancy Duff Campbell, Co-Founder of the National Women's Law Center, who also provided remarks at the Annual Dinner. Introducing Ms. Campbell was past Woman Lawyer of the Year recipient **Brooksley Born**, retired partner, Arnold & Porter LLP, a champion of women's rights who currently chairs the board of the National Women's Law Center.



Both Consuela Pinto and Diana Savit were presented with plaques in appreciation for their service as 2010-2011 president of the WBA and WBA Foundation, respectively.

The Woman Lawyer of the Year Award recognizes exceptional achievements in the legal profession and/or extraordinary contributions to the advancement of women in the legal field. Ms. Campbell has over 35 years of experience advancing women's and children's rights, and her efforts have been nationally recognized. For example, Ms. Campbell has been named by *Working Woman* magazine as one of the top 25 heroines whose actions have advanced women's status in the workplace over the past 25 years, and she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for her work to improve child support enforcement. Her advice to the Annual Dinner audience was for each person to find their own cause to support, and work passionately to pursue that cause. Ms. Campbell's remarks from the dinner can be found [here](#).



Holly E. Loiseau described the goals and initiatives she will undertake as 2010-2011 WBA President.

This year's Annual Dinner Honorary Committee was made up of several individuals who have also been recognized for their inspiring dedication to community service:

- **Mark Bergel**, Ph.D., Founder and Executive Director, A Wider Circle
- **Sister Mary Bourdon**, RJM, Co-Founder and Director, The Washington Middle School for Girls
- **Lynn Brantley**, Co-Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer, DC Capital Area Food Bank
- **The Honorable Claudia Crichlow**, Chairwoman, Board of Directors, Ayuda, Inc.
- **Deborah Gandy**, Chairwoman, Board of Directors, Washington Area Women's Foundation
- **Claudia Gwilliam**, Executive Director and Secretary, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project
- **Jason King**, President, Turning the Page
- **Aaron Knight**, Development Director, Legal Counsel for the Elderly
- **Shireen Lewis**, Ph.D., Executive Director, EduSeed; Founder, EduSeed's SisterMentors program
- **Carol Loftur-Thun**, Interim Executive Director, Women Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE) (Washington, DC)
- **Denese Lombardi**, Executive Director, Girls, Inc.
- **Joan Meier**, Founder and Executive Director, Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project (DV LEAP)
- **Bradley Myles**, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, The Polaris Project
- **Elisabeth Olds**, Co-Executive Director, Survivors and Advocates for Empowerment

(SAFE)

- **Judith Sandalow**, Executive Director, Children's Law Center
- **The Honorable Mary Terrell**, Founder, The High Tea Society, Inc.
- **Noel Tieszen**, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Interstages, Inc.
- **Paige Conner Totaro**, Executive Director, Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts (WALA)

The 2010 Annual Dinner was a tremendous success, and the WBA and WBA Foundation thank all of the members and sponsors who contributed to making it such a memorable event.

Thank you to our 2010 Annual Dinner Sponsors

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Campbell Remarks from the 2010 Annual Dinner



Nancy Duff Campbell addresses the crowd at the 2010 Annual Dinner.



1981 Woman Lawyer of the Year, Brooksley Born (right), introduced Campbell at the event

On May 25, 2010, Nancy Duff Campbell was named the WBA's 2010 Woman Lawyer of the Year. This award recognizes a woman for her exceptional achievements in the legal profession and/or for her extraordinary contributions to the advancement of women in the profession. Below is a re-reprint of Ms. Campbell's remarks.

Thank you so much, Brooksley, for that wonderful introduction. And thank you for your over 35 years of service to the National Women's Law Center, both as chair of the Board and in the dedication you bring, and the support you provide, to all that the Center does. Our accomplishments are your accomplishments, and we are so proud to share them with you.

And thank you to the Women's Bar Association for this honor. As one of the oldest and most active women's bars in the country, you have done so much to advance the cause of women in the profession, both in the District of Columbia and beyond. I especially applaud your focus this year on community service, at a time when so many organizations and individuals are suffering from the effects of the prolonged economic downturn.

And finally, I am particularly proud to share this honor with past Women Lawyers of the Year – including Brooksley, my wonderful co-president at the National Women's Law Center, Marcia Greenberger, and other distinguished guests here tonight, including Center Board member Elaine Jones. And I am proud to share this honor with all my colleagues at the Center, whose talents, skills, and dedication to the cause we share have made a real difference in the lives of so many women and their families.

As I look back on my life, as one is wont to do at times like this, I feel incredibly lucky not only to have experienced, but to have actively participated in three great legal revolutions. No one of these revolutions is complete but all have had remarkable, lasting effects.

In college and law school in the 1960s, I was actively involved in the civil rights movement, including spending a summer in Mississippi and – on one very memorable occasion – briefing

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on developments in Selma, Alabama after peaceful marchers there were attacked by the very law enforcement officers charged with protecting them. The accomplishments of this movement are legion – in the Congress, in the courts, and in the culture.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, when I was just beginning to practice law at the legal services support center on public benefits law, I was actively involved in the poverty law and welfare rights movements. Legal services programs were just getting started and the courts were beginning to articulate the rights of disadvantaged Americans, including the right to a hearing before benefits could be terminated, the right to travel from state to state without losing benefits, and the right to challenge, in federal court, other basic violations of statutory and constitutional rights.

In the 1970s, when I joined forces with Marcia, Brooksley, and other wonderful colleagues in an effort that became the National Women's Law Center, I became an active participant in developing and expanding the women's rights legal movement. At that point, this legal effort was just getting under way. But today, as a result of the Center's work, a woman in a downtown DC office, on a middle-school playground, or in an Army tank, has protection against sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination. A woman raising her children alone has a better chance of collecting the child support she's due, finding and paying for child care so she can earn a living, securing the health care she needs, and having Social Security income in retirement.

I am so privileged to have been involved in all three of these legal movements in their early, formative years. It has been wonderful to participate in and celebrate their successes and to collaborate with so many others to build on those successes.

But my goal in these brief remarks is not to extol these successes or regale you with the challenges that remain, which are many.

It is rather to urge you to be engaged in some similar journey of your own.

At this time of year, I realize, this is the theme of virtually every commencement speech.

But my message to you as lawyers goes beyond the usual exhortation to find something you love and work hard at it.

My wish for you is to have a **cause** and to be engaged in it. To make a difference. To use your skills and your talents to, literally, change the world in some way, large or small. Fight poverty. Combat hunger. Push for more and better child care. Challenge denials of reproductive rights and discrimination in all its forms. Pick your cause and make something happen.

Do **not** be like one of Lily Tomlin's memorable characters who declared: "When I was growing up, I always wanted to be someone. Now I realize I should have been more specific."

A few weeks ago, I joined with many others across the country to mourn the death of the great civil rights and women's rights leader Dorothy Height. During the memorial service at the Washington National Cathedral, one of the eulogizers noted that Dr. Height had just finished writing a book in which she looked back on her life and her active participation in these great causes. Dr. Height had it right when she titled that book "Living with Purpose."

Living with purpose. That is my goal in my practice of law – and my life. That is what I want people to remember about me. And that is what I wish for all of you.

Thank you.



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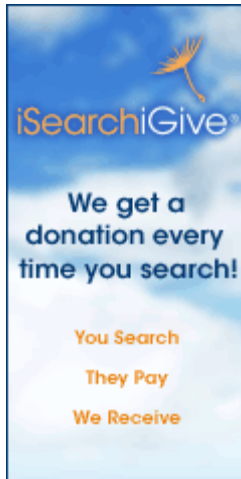
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WBA Foundation Announces New Board Members and Officers

The WBA Foundation recently voted to appoint three new members of the Board of Directors:

Amy Bess
Vedder Price P.C.

Barbara Burr
Burr Law Firm

Kathleen Gunning
FDIC

The Foundation Board also held its election of officers, with the following results:

President
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.

Vice President
Kirra L. Jarratt
American Bar Association

Treasurer
Jennifer Duane
Department of Commerce – NTI

Assistant Treasurer
Linda M. Jackson
Venable LLP

Secretary
Amy Bess
Vedder Price P.C.



Tracy-Gene G. Durkin



Association Foundation Grant Awards

By **Karen M. Lockwood, The Lockwood Group** and **Karen Paul Stern, Development Consultant**

"We aim to unite in our mission with each and every one of our friends, sponsors, students of the next generation, grantees and YOU!"

With these words, the Women's Bar Association Foundation (WBA Foundation) convened its first-ever Grant Awards Ceremony. On Tuesday, April 27, the Foundation Board welcomed and saluted the work of nine outstanding local non-profits that help women and girls in the Washington, DC region. **Tina Tchen**, Executive Director of the White House Counsel on Women and Girls, and Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement, gave keynote remarks. Over 120 members of the WBA, colleagues from the DC legal community, and friends of the WBA Foundation came together to enjoy an evening of cocktails, conversation and inspiring words from Ms. Tchen about addressing the needs of girls and women.



Tina Tchen addresses the crowd, which included over 120 WBA members, WBA Foundation supporters, and WBA Foundation grantees

The leaders of the nine WBA Foundation grantees – **Ayuda, DV Leap, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Polaris Project, Interstages, Washington Middle School for Girls, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, SisterMentors/EduSeed and Survivors and Advocates for Empowerment (SAFE)** – joined 2010-2011 WBA Foundation President **Diana Savit** and Grants Committee Chair Paulette Chapman at the podium to accept their grant awards from the Foundation.

The event, *Uniting for Justice: The WBA Foundation Grant Awards*, was designed to recognize and award outstanding organizations from across the DC area that are dedicated to helping women and girls in the region whose needs cannot be met by legal measures alone. Those needs include for example providing opportunities in communities that are disadvantaged, helping to prepare paths to independence and education, securing adequate housing and care, and offering advocacy where the law cannot reach or act fast enough. One of the significant goals of the event was sounded by the theme "Unite" – to bring together leaders, donors, and change-makers to continue the conversation about the needs in the DC metropolitan region that can be met by the WBA Foundation's unique vision and mission.

For nearly 30 years, the WBA Foundation, the charitable sister organization to the Women's Bar Association (WBA), has been investing in the promise of women and girls in our community. We identify needs, apply our problem-solving talent from multiple legal specialties to determine the optimal use of resources for change, and tap into a wealth of experience from our Board to find new non-profit partners that help women and girls to choose how to achieve the greatest power from our financial investment in organizations and projects we believe are best positioned to achieve our goals.

Focusing on grantee organizations whose missions intersect with the law or augmenting the law's power, the WBA Foundation provides grants to concrete, mission-driven programs for disadvantaged women and girls in the Washington region – supporting better laws, greater self-determination, effective education, and the efficient and compassionate administration of justice.

In 2010, the WBAF launched *Uniting for Justice*, a new fundraising and visibility campaign that will aggressively deepen WBAF's important impact, and that will strengthen the work of our current and future grantees who directly change the lives of women and children in our community.

WBAF Board member and Development Committee Chair **Karen M. Lockwood** ended the evening with a plea for all to support and participate in the work of the Foundation, both by

making a personal gift, as well as by continuing to follow the stellar work of the nine grantees highlighted that evening.

"We are determined to draw in others to our vision of helping where the law alone cannot work fast enough," said Ms. Lockwood.

The WBA Foundation will hold a series of dinners in the fall to discuss the *Uniting for Justice* campaign with friends of the WBA Foundation, and to expand its outreach into the community. Its next round of grants will be announced in late 2010.



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Want to learn more about WBA's Committees and Forums? Maybe you want to get involved in planning a program, or want to be added to a particular committee's email list? Join us for the **2010 Stars of the Bar Fall Networking Reception** on September 15, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the Hogan Lovells Atrium Lobby at Columbia Square, 555 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC. This is a great opportunity to meet the WBA Co-Chairs and learn more about their plans for the coming bar year.

Health Law Forum

The **Health Law Forum** regularly holds events that draw speakers and attendees who practice health law at government agencies, firms, corporations, and non-profit organizations. During this past year, the Health Law Forum co-sponsored a breast cancer legal advocacy workshop with the **ABA Health Law Section Breast Cancer Task Force** and **Arent Fox LLP** (May); organized a health law careers panel with **Ivy Baer, Robyn Diaz** and **Rob Portman**, held in September and hosted by **Powers, Pyles, Sutter & Verville P.C.**; and co-sponsored with the **DC Bar Health Law Section** a panel presentation in October, "Health Care Fraud: False Claims Act Settlements and Corporate Integrity Agreements."

More recently, the Health Law Forum has been holding a series of informative networking lunches, starting with a health care reform discussion lunch in February, moderated by **Barbara Straub Williams** from Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville P.C. and hosted by **Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo, P.C.** The series continued in April with a lively lunch discussion on implementation issues related to health reform, hosted by **Crowell & Moring LLP** and led by **Julie Barnes** at the New America Foundation, a nonpartisan public policy institute. A summer networking lunch, hosted by **Groom Law Group**, is scheduled for July 22. **Hope Foster**, a member at Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, and Popeo, P.C., will lead a discussion focused on the fraud, waste, and abuse provisions of the new health reform laws.



International Law Forum

In September 2009, the **International Law Forum** hosted its annual Wine and Cheese Networking Reception at Vinson & Elkins LLP. Attending members represented a diverse range of international practices, including federal, corporate, litigation, aviation, and immigration. The event will be held again this fall.

The International Law Forum, in conjunction with the **Career Development Committee**, is planning a career panel on Effective Strategies for Finding Overseas Legal Employment. During this panel discussion, attorneys who currently are practicing or recently have practiced law overseas will share their perspectives about how they obtained their position and the

benefits and potential pitfalls of international work. These attorneys have practiced for U.S. government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private law firms, and private companies. The panel discussion will be moderated by Ellen Ostrow, founder of Lawyers Life Coach, LLC. Watch WBA's News & Events email blast for date and location details.



Non-Profit Organizations Practice Forum & Career Development Forum

On May 3, 2010, the **Non-Profit Organizations Practice Forum** and the **Career Development Forum** co-sponsored "Skill-Building Through Pro Bono," a roundtable discussion on the career benefits of volunteering legal services. The discussion explored how attorneys can respond to the overwhelming needs of many non-profit organizations and their clients.

The event was hosted by law firm **DLA Piper** and featured **Lisa Dewey**, Pro Bono Partner at DLA Piper; **Francesca M.S. Guerrero** of Winston and Strawn; and **Anna Priddy** of Whitman-Walker Clinic. The discussion was moderated by Non-Profit Forum co-chair, **Marcia Johnson-Blanco**, who gave the perspective of a non-profit that co-counsels with the private bar. The participants provided varied perspectives on fostering a pro bono culture in a law firm, a service provider that trains attorneys in advocating for its clients, and an associate building a practice based on skills learned from her pro bono activities. The discussion revealed that attorneys engaging in pro bono activity gain while helping those in need. Ms. Priddy noted that skills gained are both issue-based and client-service based. Ms. Guerrero also noted that, at a minimum, pro bono activity offers an opportunity to "test drive" a practice area. Participants also shared information about organizations that provide pro bono opportunities such as the Washington Council of Lawyers, Women Empowered Against Violence ("WEAVE"), Greater DC Cares, and the DC Bar Pro Bono program.

In the coming year, the Non-Profit Organizations Practice Forum will organize a series of programs further exploring opportunities within the non-profit sector. Ideas for future discussions are always welcomed.



Solo & Small Practice Forum

On April 28, 2010, the **Solo & Small Practice Forum** presented a panel discussion on how to start and operate a solo law practice. Panelist **Ashley Dobbs** spoke about various aspects of marketing a law practice, including through networking and website. **Carlean Ponder**, founder of The Ponder Law & Advocacy Group, shared information about building a client base, balancing a case load with staffing resources, and learning to adapt and retool your business model on a continuing basis. Veteran WBA and WBA Foundation leader **Diana Savit** provided guidance on how to select clients and tailor a practice from among the myriad of legal fields. After the panel remarks, the audience and panelists engaged in an exchange of information about client development, billing, litigation resources, and specific fields of practice. The forum expresses its appreciation to **Jenner & Block** for providing the beautiful conference room and assistance with details.

Members of the Forum also met monthly for lunch at a downtown restaurant to discuss practice topics of interest.



Working Parents Forum

The **Working Parents Forum** presented a program entitled "A Guide to Family Planning: Egg Banking, IVF, Surrogacy and Donors" on September 30, 2009. The program was

designed to discuss issues such as: the right time to start a family, waiting to have children and/or having difficulty conceiving, having a child while single, options when experiencing infertility, and being a gestational carrier, to name a few.

In February 2010, "No More Billable Hours: Alternative Careers for Lawyers" was presented in collaboration with the Career Development Committee and the Lawyers at Home Forum. The program was designed for lawyers looking for a career change that would allow them to leave billable hours behind, trying to expand their job search for positions "outside the box," or hoping to get back into the workforce with a job conducive to work and life balance. The program explored several legal jobs outside the traditional mold. The panelists gave attendees a glimpse into their daily workday and shared the paths they took to finding alternative legal positions.



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Member News

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Networking Lunch - Fraud and Abuse Issues in Health Reform

Wednesday, Sept 15, 2010

Save the Date: 2010 Stars of the Bar Reception

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WBA Members Named to Washington's Most Influential Women Lawyers

Several WBA members were named to *The National Law Journal's* list of **Washington's Most Influential Women Lawyers**. These power players were selected by the *Journal's* editors in recognition of their work and influence. Congratulations to:

Deborah Feinstein, Arnold & Porter
Deborah Garza, Covington & Burling
Hon. Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Supreme Court
Jamie Gorelick, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr
Marcia Greenberer, National Women's Law Center
Carolyn Lamm, White & Case
Laura Miller, Nixon Peabody
Patricia Millett, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, U.S. Supreme Court
Grace Speights, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius



WBA Members Elected to DC Bar and ABA Leadership Positions

Congratulations to the WBA members who were recently elected to the DC Bar Board of Governors and ABA House of Delegates:

DC Bar Board of Governors

Darrell G. Mottley, Banner & Witcoff (*President-Elect*)
H. Guy Collier, Jr., McDemott Will & Emery LLP
Bridget Bailey Lipscomb, U.S. Department of Justice
Lorelie S. Masters, Jenner & Block LLP
R. Justin Smith, U.S. Department of Justice

ABA House of Delegates



Two WBA Members Selected as Vision 2010 Delegates

More than 1,000 registered to nominate or become [Vision 2020 National Delegates](#), but in the end it came down to 102 extraordinary women who will serve as chief advocates for women's leadership and equality in their home states. WBA members **Kim Keenan**, The Keenan Firm, and **Lorelie S. Masters**, Jenner & Block LLP, have been chosen as delegates for Washington, DC.

Vision 2020 is a national project focused on advancing gender equality by energizing the dialogue about women and leadership. Its first public event takes place on October 21-22, 2010, when a congress of national delegates, representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia, will meet at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia to launch an action agenda to move America toward equality by 2020, the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment.

The national search for delegates focused on finding women who have demonstrated a commitment to helping women and girls. These delegates are willing to mobilize resources to bring about positive change and implement elements of the decade-long Vision 2020 agenda, signing on for a minimum three-year term following the conference.



Welcome New WBA Members!

Melissa Alcantara
Laurie A. Amell
Rosemarie Annunziata
Shilpa Reddy Aramada
Nazanin Baseri
Kathleen Anne Behan
Jeffrey L. Berger
Aisha Wilson Bond
Nata K. Brown
Amy L. Buxbaum
Cheryl Cepeda Beeker
Claudia A. Crichlow
Adela Cufe
Catherine S. Duval
Lisa Ellern-Feldman
Maia Ellis
Christine Dessa Ely
Rachel Hersh

Kris-Andra Houchins
Laura E. Jordan
Heather Klein
Jaime Klima
Patricia Larios
Pamela G. Levinson
Lara Levinson
Sandina Mathieu
Yvonne Ugonma Mbibi
Maura Cahill Merlis
Rachel Miras-Wilson
Rowan Morris
Debra Stewart Orbacz
Yajaira Ortiz-Wilson
Rory L. Pred
Tanikia Roberts Head
Kim M. Whatley

Cindy Robertson
Guly Sabahi
Kimberly A. Scardino
Rena Scheinkman
Roberta I. Shaffer
Laura Shin
Kelly Shoop
Tonya Nicole Sloans
Dorothy Smith
Mary Ann Snow
Sarah J. Starrett
Sylvia V. Stearn
Lisa Stone
Amanda Tantum
Janice van Stolk
LaShawn Y. Warren
Christina D. Zaroulis



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President's Column



By Holly E. Loiseau, WBA President

Welcome to the 2010-2011 bar year for the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and this year's first issue of Raising the Bar. I am very proud to serve the WBA and its members as President this year. I encourage all of our members to get involved: This is going to be an exciting year!

This year, the WBA will begin to implement its three-year [Strategic Plan](#). The goal areas of the Strategic Plan include:

- Leadership Development and Succession Planning
- Development and Fundraising
- Member Programming
- Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women
- Strategic Planning

The WBA leadership will use the Strategic Plan as a guide and tool to ensure the continued growth, relevance, and stability of the organization. Our members can expect updates on the progress made under the plan.

Further, we will continue the groundbreaking work of the [WBA Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women](#), the third phase of which focuses on issues impacting women in-house counsel. This year we will take what we have learned in our recent survey, the March 2010 summit, and our third report, [Navigating the Corporate Matrix: Advancing Women in Corporate Law Departments](#). In addition to our In-House Counsel Forum programming, we will sponsor two showcase luncheon programs featuring prominent women general counsel and women in corporate leadership positions. We will discuss challenges to advancement, the relationship between women in-house counsel and women outside counsel, strategies for success, and lessons learned from various career paths.

Also, the WBA will conduct research, and analyze and address issues impacting women in the legal profession. These include compensation and leadership issues at the partner level and the value challenge and billable hour discussion. We will do this through a series of published white papers that will not only be authoritative but also thought-provoking.

Finally, we will focus on increasing membership in a number of ways, including conducting programs at firms and organizations to introduce the WBA, its mission, and the opportunities the WBA offers.

I often say that the WBA's strength is its membership. That membership is diverse and active and brings to this legal community an amazing breadth of programming that you can explore on the [website](#). But we face big challenges and we have even bigger aspirations. So we need your help.

There is a place for you at the WBA. If you want to know how to get involved, contact me,

any Board member, any committee/forum co-chair, or our office. Join me and the rest of the WBA community in continuing the important work of this great organization!

Holly E. Loiseau
2010-2011 President

