

November/December 2012 Issue

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## Raising the Bar Editors

**Beth Davidson**  
Stephoe & Johnson LLP  
[bdavidson@stephoe.com](mailto:bdavidson@stephoe.com)

**Cynthia Hemphill**  
Trow & Rahal, P.C.  
[chemphill@trowlaw.com](mailto:chemphill@trowlaw.com)

*Staff Liaison*  
**Carol Montoya, CAE**  
WBA  
202-639-8880  
[Carol@wbadc.org](mailto:Carol@wbadc.org)

## Member News

## WBA Endorses the Nomination of Two WBA Members for the ABA Margaret Brent Award

*By Laura Possessky, Partner, Gura & Possessky, P.L.L.C.; President, Women's Bar Association*



*The Hon. Gladys Kessler      Nancy Duff Campbell*

The WBA has endorsed the nominations for two exceptional WBA members for the **2013 ABA Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award: The Honorable Gladys Kessler and Nancy Duff Campbell**. The Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award is awarded each year by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession to five women across the country who have demonstrated professional excellence in their fields and either influenced other women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them, or advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession. Recipients of the award will be announced in the spring and presented at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August 2013. ...

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## Feature: Why Meditate?

*By Linda Lazarus*

Have you ever tried to review an agreement for a client but instead found yourself re-playing a difficult conversation that you had with your partner or your aging parent? Have you ever been unable to

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[Wall Honored With First Amendment Award](#)

[Lee Named to WBJ Power 100](#)

[Jakovic and Keeney Honored](#)

[Sandman Receives WCL President's Award](#)

[Welcome New Members](#)

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concentrate because you were worried about your kids? Or, are you unable to have fun with your kids because you are worried about your professional responsibilities? Or perhaps you ruminate about the past or worry about the future? Maybe you just feel “stressed” most of the time—suffering from tight muscles in your neck or lower back, an array of stomach problems or frequent headaches. ...

[read more ...](#)

## Feature: Human Trafficking

*By Laurel Bellows, 2012-2013 President, American Bar Association*

Like many other domestic workers, Zipora left her home with a diplomat who brought her to the United States on a special visa. But when she arrived in the U.S., he confiscated her passport and forced her to do unpaid work 12 to 14 hours a day. She cleaned his home, cooked for his catering company, and cared for his children. For four years, her life was a nightmare of imprisonment by her fellow countryman— someone she had trusted. ...

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## Committees and Forums

### [WBA Leaders Discuss Pursuing the Presidency](#)

*By Nancy L. Combs, Attorney at Law; Co-Chair, Career Development Committee*

The Career Development Committee and Government Attorneys Forum co-sponsored a panel presentation in November entitled “Pursuing the Presidency: Running for an Elected Bar Position.” Panel members **Laura Possessky, Paulette Chapman, and Bridget Bailey Lipscomb** divulged personal insights and shared candid comments about their experiences in running for President-elect of the **DC Bar**. ...

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### [Presidential Efforts to Abolish the Use of Forced Labor to Perform U.S. Government Contracts Overseas](#)

*By Sam W. McCahon, McCahon Law Offices*

*On November 8, 2012, the International Law Forum hosted a panel discussion entitled “Abolishing Human Trafficking in Government Contracts: How to Comply With New Mandates and Mitigate Risk Exposure.” The program was co-sponsored by the ABA and featured an address by **ABA President Laurel Bellows**. The program was designed to raise awareness of what constitutes human trafficking and*

Foundation Founders Fellowship. The Fellowship, established in 2006 and awarded annually, provides a stipend to an area law student to work with a local legal services provider on projects to benefit women and children in our community.

Thursday, March 14, 2013

### [A Conversation with The Honorable Patricia Wald](#)

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Join us during Women’s History Month in honoring Patricia McGowan Wald, the first woman appointed as a judge to any of the United States Courts of Appeal. Judge Wald has received numerous honors to recognize her exceptional career as a jurist and her numerous leadership roles in professional associations, national commissions and legal reforms efforts in the U.S. and abroad, influenced other women to pursue legal careers, and opened doors closed previously to women.

## President's Column

*By Laura Possessky, WBA President*

### **What Grace Can Teach Us**

This year a girl named Grace, who lives in my hometown, came up with an idea when she learned her hair was too short to donate to **Locks of Love**. She set out to make and sell 50 tutus before her 8th birthday and donate the proceeds to the local children’s hospital. A month before her birthday, she reached her goal . . . and decided to keep going.

We could all learn something from Grace. She wanted to make a difference and help someone. When she could not do what others were doing, she looked for another way to accomplish her goal. She did not let her short hair get in the way of her desire to help sick children.

...

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**WBA Foundation**

address how a new executive order will impose significant requirements on government contractors to ensure that trafficked labor is not used on their contracts. As a follow up to this well-attended event, the following article was written by [Sam McCahon](#), one of the program's panelists, who is an attorney and internationally recognized leader in developing strategies and taking action to try to mitigate the scourge of human trafficking. ...

[read more ...](#)

#### **Communications Policies for the Next Administration**

*By Jennifer Duane, Department of Commerce-NTIA; Co-Chair, Communications Law Forum*

On November 1, 2012, the **Communications Law Forum** presented a brown bag lunch program that examined the communications policies that would likely be front and center in the next Presidential Administration. Held at the Patton Boggs Conference Center, the program featured [John Kneuer](#), a former advisor to President Bush as the Administrator of the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), and [Jim Kohlenberger](#), a former Chief of Staff of the Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House under President Obama. ...

[read more ...](#)

*By Kirra Jarratt, WBAF President*

For over three decades, the WBAF has leveraged the generosity of lawyers and friends like you to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the Washington, DC Metropolitan community. Last year, with the help of our donors, we awarded grants to five local organizations—[Break the Cycle](#), [Courtney's House](#), the [Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project \(DV LEAP\)](#), [Our Place DC](#), and the [Polaris Project](#)—each making a huge difference in our community: one case, one woman, and one girl at a time. ...

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## Events

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

### [Holiday Tea](#)

Presented by: Communications Law Forum

Register early as this event will sell out! Our annual Holiday Tea promises to be a festive, delicious and congenial experience—the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your friends! Featuring remarks by Maureen Ohlhausen, a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

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By *Laura Possessky, Partner, Gura & Possessky, P.L.L.C.; President, Women's Bar Association*

The WBA has endorsed the nominations for two exceptional WBA members for the [2013 ABA Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award](#): [The Honorable Gladys Kessler](#) and [Nancy Duff Campbell](#). The Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award is awarded each year by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession to five women across the country who have demonstrated professional excellence in their fields and either influenced other women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women lawyers in a variety of job settings that historically were closed to them, or advanced opportunities for women within a practice area or segment of the profession. Recipients of the award will be announced in the spring and presented at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August 2013.

### **Judge Gladys Kessler**

Senior Judge, DC Circuit, U.S. District Court  
WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year, 1983

For decades, Judge Gladys Kessler has blazed a trail of professional excellence, influencing other women to follow her lead. Throughout her career, Judge Kessler has championed advancing the interests of women in the legal profession, promoting their mutual improvement, and encouraging a spirit of friendship. She is among the female pioneers who went to law school at a time when professional aspirations by women were discouraged. Despite the challenges of the time, she established a public interest law firm early in her career. She was also a founding member and early President of the Women's Legal Defense Fund (now the National Partnership for Women and Families), an organization that was originally established to create a community for women lawyers handling discrimination cases and that has now become a nationally-recognized change agent to improve the lives of women, children, and families through the law.

In 1977, Judge Kessler was appointed to the DC Superior Court, where she had an opportunity to champion transformations in the administration of justice to improve the lives of women. She worked tirelessly to promote the role and excellence of the Family Court Division of the DC Superior Court. Further, she was instrumental in setting up the Court's Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Program, which offers expedited dispute resolution services to litigants, many of whom are women.

She was appointed to the DC Circuit of the U.S. District Court in 1994 and continues to serve on the bench. During her tenure on the bench, she has actively worked on issues to improve the administration of justice and has served on many committees with that purpose. Judge Kessler also participated in the founding the National Association of Women Judges, serving as president in 1983.

Outside of her professional life, Judge Kessler has demonstrated a strong interest in improving the lives of women. She has served for many years on the board (including service as President from 2006-2007) of [Our Place DC](#), one of the rare organizations that assist women coming out



*The Hon. Gladys Kessler*



from the event benefit the WBA Foundation Founders Fellowship. The Fellowship, established in 2006 and awarded annually, provides a stipend to an area law student to work with a local legal services provider on projects to benefit women and children in our community.

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of prison and their families, and a [WBA Foundation grantee](#).

Judge Kessler, through her professional activities, dedication to the public interest and years of service on the bench, has modeled the way for women in the profession and advanced the equality of women through the administration of justice. She has carried out her purposeful professional pursuits and charitable activities with quiet aplomb, and has unfalteringly exemplified a key mission of the WBA: to maintain the highest honor and integrity of the profession.

### **Nancy Duff Campbell**

Co-President, National Women's Law Center  
WBA Woman Lawyer of the Year, 2010

Nancy Duff Campbell is the Co-President of the [National Women's Law Center \(NWLC\)](#). For nearly 40 years, Ms. Campbell has championed the cause of protecting the rights of women and their children in the areas of employment, education, health and reproductive rights, and family economic security. Under her leadership, the NWLC has gained national recognition and respect for its cutting-edge work in the area of women's rights.



*Nancy Duff Campbell*

Ms. Campbell has had a broad and profound influence upon the lives of women. She improved women's opportunities for professional pursuits through her work on the first comprehensive federal child care legislation since World War II—the 1990 Child Care and Development Block Grant, and has also played a leadership role in organizing a nationwide coalition for affordable, high-quality child care. Among many of her society-transforming achievements, she has brought about change in equally impactful ways on a number of other key issues affecting women, including:

- Reform of the Social Security system so that it better reflects women's economic contributions and needs, and so that the system itself will be secure for the sake of the elderly;
- Improvement of the efficiency, fairness, and cost of the child support system in both DC and around the country; and,
- Expansion of the opportunities for women in the military through reforms that created better prospects for women's advancement, improved procedures to address sexual harassment, and strengthened child care and family policies.

Her efforts to mentor and support women in the profession match the power of her professional accomplishments. In addition to her contributions to the WBA and its membership, she has brought her teaching and mentoring skills to hundreds of NWLC interns, fellows, lawyers, and volunteers over the years. In 2007, Ms. Campbell oversaw the development of the [NWLC Leadership 35](#) program, which is designed to reach out to women lawyers in their mid-thirties to provide them with mentoring and networking opportunities to accede to leadership roles. She also has worked to expand the number of women on the bench, advocating for the importance of having more women on the Supreme Court, and working tirelessly on the Center's efforts to support the confirmation of Justice Sonia Sotomayor in 2009.

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## Why Meditate?

By Linda Lazarus

Have you ever tried to review an agreement for a client but instead found yourself re-playing a difficult conversation that you had with your partner or your aging parent? Have you ever been unable to concentrate because you were worried about your kids? Or, are you unable to have fun with your kids because you are worried about your professional responsibilities? Or perhaps you ruminate about the past or worry about the future? Maybe you just feel “stressed” most of the time—suffering from tight muscles in your neck or lower back, an array of stomach problems or frequent headaches.

If so, you are not alone. As lawyers and as women, we have a large number of responsibilities and are often under enormous pressure. Being a lawyer is very difficult work. We are often involved in conflicts that seem intractable and sometimes involve destructive emotions and even physical violence. Often we put in long hours working at tasks that may be routine or complex, and sometimes of great importance to our clients and others. The practice is competitive and often less than civil. Moreover, women in the legal profession experience special stressors—we continue to encounter discriminatory practices, including sexist behavior and harassment. Also, despite the fact that we often have primary responsibility for the well-being of our families, employers often fail to accommodate these family responsibilities and continue to expect that professional work will be the most important element in our lives. In short, we are pulled in many different directions, often distracted and unable to fully experience our lives.

Even given the numerous demands upon our time and psyche, there are tools that we can use to transform this situation and start living life more fully. And these same tools not only help reverse the stress response but also help us become better at what we do. According to the Mayo Clinic and many other scientists, meditation is one such tool.

As a general rule, meditation focuses the mind and brings mental processes under greater control. Meditation also encourages the cultivation of certain beneficial qualities. It is hard to convey the experience of meditation in words, because meditation, like the color red, must be experienced.

The practice of meditation often involves specific postures and a focus on the breath. There are many different types of meditation, including those that focus on concentration, as well as those that focus on awareness, energy work, and movement practices. The “relaxation response” is an example of a concentrative practice that involves repeating a meaningful word or phrase. Mindfulness, on the other hand, is an awareness practice which focuses on developing a choiceless, non-judgmental awareness of whatever arises. When we work with energy, we focus on self-healing or the healing of others. Movement practices are more familiar—they include tai chi and yoga.

It is now well-accepted that meditation is good for your physical, emotional and cognitive health. It is said to bring the nervous system into balance and reverse the stress response. In terms of physical illness, the Mayo Clinic indicates that meditation may be beneficial for allergies, cancer, fatigue, heart disease, high blood pressure, and pain. Other research indicates that meditation may be helpful for anxiety, binge-eating, depression, sleep problems, and substance abuse. Meditation has also been found to reduce disruptions caused by distractions and improve cognitive functioning.

Most significantly for women lawyers, meditation also helps us to develop optimal mind

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states. These mind states improve our ability to function in all of our roles by enabling us to become fully present in the moment, calm, and grounded. For example, science has now confirmed that meditation has the ability to transform destructive emotions. For example, **Dr. Richard Davidson of the University of Wisconsin** has found that people who practice meditation become calmer, happier, more loving and less prone to destructive emotions. Moreover, the parts of the brain that help form positive emotions become increasingly active after only eight weeks of meditation.

It is not difficult to start meditating. It only requires 15 minutes and a quiet place to sit. Here are some instructions to start your practice of mindfulness meditation.

#### **Meditation Instructions**

When we practice mindfulness meditation we learn to be fully present in the moment without judgment. We normally start the practice of mindfulness by paying attention to our body. This grounds us in the present. In the next stage, we focus on our breath and let go other sensations. This focuses and calms the mind. In the final stage, we are still grounded in our body and our breath, but we enlarge our awareness to be present for whatever occurs. By enlarging our awareness, we expand our ability to see clearly—to see things as they really are.

1. Direct your attention to your body. Sit on the edge of your chair with your spine straight and both feet grounded on the floor. Let your head balance gently on top of the spine. Let your feet be heavy and your head be light. Place your hands on your lap or on your thighs, and allow them to be comfortable and soft. Shut your eyes gently or look down. Place your tongue on the roof of your mouth. You should feel both alert and relaxed.
2. Direct your attention to your breath. When you breathe in, your belly should fill with air. When you breathe out, your belly should flatten. For the first few breaths, think about breathing in calmness and breathing out tension.
3. Then let go of these words, and just be present with your breath. As you inhale, experience the breath as it enters your body—is it warm or cool, soft or harsh? See where the breath goes in your body—does it go to your chest, your belly or your feet? As you exhale, experience the breath as it leaves your body—is it warm or cool, soft or harsh? Simply continue to focus on the sensation of each breath as it unfolds.
4. If a thought occurs to you—don't try and stop it. Just say to yourself—"there's a thought" and gently bring your mind back to the breath.
5. As the mind becomes tranquil, you may enlarge your awareness. Just sit, breathe, and be present with whatever arises. Do not try to control your sensations or thoughts to increase that which is pleasant and decrease that which is unpleasant. Do not judge, simply accept whatever occurs. Treat your own thoughts as if they are objects with an independent existence that will come and go in their own time. Permit your thoughts and other sensations to come and go.
6. If you find yourself becoming involved with the content of your thoughts or overly involved with a sensation, bring the attention back to your breath until your mind becomes calm.
7. Do this practice 15 minutes every day for a month, and before stressful events.

(These meditation instructions are based on the instructions given by many meditation teachers, including **Jon Kabat-Zinn**, **Jack Kornfield**, and **Larry Rosenberg**.)

*Ms. Lazarus is an attorney and mediator who provides meditation classes and stress reduction programs in workplaces throughout the Washington, DC metropolitan area. She can be reached at 202-364-2744 or [lindalazarus@starpower.net](mailto:lindalazarus@starpower.net). For additional information, please see [www.advancehumanpotential.com](http://www.advancehumanpotential.com).*

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Women's Bar Association DC & WBA Foundation  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 446  
Washington, DC 20006  
[www.wbade.org](http://www.wbade.org) | [admin@wbade.org](mailto:admin@wbade.org)  
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*By Kirra L. Jarratt, WBAF President*

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We fund a variety of organizations, including some that may not be well known, but all are on-the-ground, expertly meeting the pressing needs of women and girls in our community. And, we fund specific projects that, with the timely investment of WBAF grant dollars, will have a measurable and lasting impact.

Each year, we receive grant requests from worthy organizations that greatly exceed the total grants we are able to award.

Won't you join us by [making a contribution this year](#), and help the WBAF expand our grant-making capacity, so we can help more nonprofit organizations and make a real difference? By contributing to the WBAF, you add your dollars to the donations of others, multiplying the impact of those donations.

As we enjoy the holiday season, let's remember the women and girls in our community who are struggling, who need access to the legal system to fight discrimination, to preserve custody of their children, or to escape domestic violence or human trafficking. As a client of one 2012 WBAF grantee said of the legal assistance she received, "It makes it a fairer fight for the future."

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## Foundation Board Member Honored by WCL

WBA Foundation Board member **James Sandman** received the 2012 **Washington Council of Lawyers' Presidents' Award**, which recognizes exceptional commitment to public service, pro bono, and the public interest community.

Mr. Sandman was elected to the WBA Foundation Board of Directors in 2011. He currently serves on the Finance and Development Committees.

"It's a great honor to be recognized by the Washington Council of Lawyers, which represents the very best of the bar that leads the nation in commitment to pro bono and public interest work," Mr. Sandman said.



*James Sandman*

In 2011, Mr. Sandman was appointed President of the **Legal Services Corporation**. From 2007 to 2011, Mr. Sandman served as general counsel for the **District of Columbia Public Schools**. He previously practiced with **Arnold & Porter LLP** from 1977 to 2007 and served as the firm's managing partner from 1995 to 2005. During Sandman's tenure as managing partner, Arnold & Porter received a number of awards recognizing the firm's commitment to pro bono, including the **American Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico Award**. It was also honored by the **Minority Corporate Counsel Association** for its commitment to diversity.

Sandman was president of the **DC Bar** from 2006 to 2007 and served on its board of governors from 2003 to 2008. He is currently chair of the **DC Bar's Pro Bono Committee**, co-chair of the **District of Columbia Circuit Judicial Conference Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services**, and a member of the **Pro Bono Institute's Law Firm Pro Bono Project Advisory Committee**. From 2007 to 2008, he served on the **American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service**.

Mr. Sandman was named one of the "**90 Greatest Washington Lawyers of the Last 30 Years**" by the Legal Times in 2008. The University of Pennsylvania Law School has honored him with its Alumni Award of Merit and its Howard Lesnick Pro Bono Award. He is also a recipient of the WBA Stars of the Bar award, DC Law Students in Court's Celebration of Service Award, and the **Tahirih Justice Center's Wings of Justice Award**.

The Washington Council of Lawyers awards were presented in early December at a reception that featured keynote remarks by Harold Koh, legal adviser for the U.S. Department of State.

## WBAF 2012-2013 Donors

Many thanks to our supporters! The following donors have made a gift the WBA Foundation between October 1, 2012 and November 30, 2012. These gifts will be used to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC Metropolitan community. For a list of all fiscal year donors and recognition of giving levels, visit [www.wbadcfoundation.org](http://www.wbadcfoundation.org).

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Women's Bar Association DC & WBA Foundation  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 446  
Washington, DC 20006  
[www.wbadc.org](http://www.wbadc.org) | [admin@wbadc.org](mailto:admin@wbadc.org)  
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This event is open to lawyers from solo and small firms, as well as attorneys looking to join solo or small firm life.

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*International Law Forum Co-Chair Suzanne Reifman (left), Government Attorneys Forum Co-Chair Celeste Murphy (second from left), and WBA Board Member Kathryn O'Neal (far right), joined other attorneys and law students at the International Law Forum's Fall Networking Happy Hour at Poste on September 27, 2012.*

## WBA Leaders Discuss Pursuing the Presidency

*By Nancy L. Combs, Attorney at Law; Co-Chair, Career Development Committee*



*L-r: Nancy Combs, Career Development Committee Co-Chair, with our panelists—Laura Possessky, WBA President; Bridget Bailey Lipscomb; and Paulette Chapman, WBA Past President*

The Career Development Committee and Government Attorneys Forum co-sponsored a panel presentation in November entitled "Pursuing the Presidency: Running for an Elected Bar Position." Panel members **Laura Possessky**, **Paulette Chapman**, and **Bridget Bailey Lipscomb** divulged personal insights and shared candid comments about their experiences in running for President-elect of the **DC Bar**.

The crucible of running for President-elect of the DC Bar tested each candidate, challenging them to crystalize their thoughts, formulate positions, and sometimes work beyond personal comfort zones. Some of the unexpected benefits in campaigning included renewing old contacts and developing new friendships. Describing the good, the bad, and the ugly of running a campaign, panelists agreed that they had no regrets, and had, in fact, personally



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#### **A Conversation with The Honorable Patricia Wald**

Presented by: Communications Law Forum

Join us during Women's History Month in honoring Patricia McGowan Wald, the first woman appointed as a judge to any of the United States Courts of Appeal. Judge Wald has received numerous honors to recognize her exceptional career as a jurist and her numerous leadership roles in professional associations, national commissions and legal reforms efforts in the U.S. and abroad, influenced other women to pursue legal careers, and opened doors closed previously to women.

## About Us

### **WBA Board of Directors**

gained by the experience.

With an approximate four-month election cycle, a potential candidate must possess top-notch time management skills matched with a high degree of physical stamina to attend the almost daily campaign functions and events. There is also a heavy emphasis on making personal contact with past office holders, the need to obtain group and association endorsements, developing and executing a social media outreach effort, and soliciting personal support via email and phone. All of this is done in addition to still managing an active legal practice and other personal commitments. Assembling a "kitchen cabinet" early on was highlighted as key success tip: the support and understanding of family and friends in making a run cannot be overstated.

The panelists recognized that running for office is not for everyone, but they still emphasized the need for, and benefits of, active involvement in a voluntary or mandatory bar. Each panelist related how she had improved her personal leadership style as a result of holding various positions. Further, each saw a direct correlation in her effectiveness as an attorney because of the involvement. Attendees were challenged to become involved at any level, not only for the opportunity to develop new skills and abilities, but because of the importance of advancing the profession. Active involvement can provide a sense of personal achievement and pride while renewing career choice satisfaction.

Finding an opportunity to satisfy her twin passions of the arts and the law, current WBA president Ms. Possessky has over 15 years of active involvement in local associations. A founding member of **Gura & Possessky, P.L.L.C.**, where she focuses on entertainment, intellectual property, and media law, she has, among other positions, served for two terms on the Board of **Women in Film and Video**, and two terms as a member of the DC Bar Board of Governors, serving as the bar's Treasurer.

As the past president of the **Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts**, Ms. Possessky led an initiative to catalyze community economic development through the arts. As WBA President, Ms. Possessky is asking members to focus on how the WBA builds resiliency to change and promotes positive change. She has challenged members to ensure the WBA continues to be a vibrant and relevant part of this legal community and a resource to women.

Ms. Chapman is recognized as one of Washington's Top Lawyers, and as a **DC Super Lawyer** for three years running. She is a Partner at **Koonz, McKenney, Johnson, DePaolis & Lightfoot**, and has been representing plaintiffs in personal injury cases since 1988, when she graduated from the George Washington University Law School.

Even with the demands of a complex personal injury practice, Ms. Chapman is active in many ways with the profession, and indeed, sets a high-bar for involvement. For instance, she is a past president of both the **Bar Association of the District of Columbia**, as well as our own Women's Bar Association. She served on the Board of Governors for the DC Bar, and was a member of the Board of Directors for both the WBA and the WBA Foundation. Ms. Chapman is currently on the Board of the **Trial Lawyers Association of Metropolitan Washington DC**.

A strong believer in the idea that knowledge advances justice, Ms. Chapman is keen to educate and enlighten. She has held faculty and instructor positions with the National College of Advocacy, the **National Institute for Trial Advocacy**, the **Catholic University School of Law** and the **DC Bar's Continuing Legal Education Program**.

The third member of the panel, Ms. Lipscomb, is a Senior Trial Counsel in the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, with a nationwide practice defending the United States in complex tort cases.

Ms. Lipscomb exemplifies the concept of giving back and improving organizations through involvement. She is a community advocate, a mentor, and a teacher. A graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law, she made her mark in Tennessee by, among other accomplishments, serving on the Board of Governors of the **Knoxville Bar Association** and as a hearing officer for the **Tennessee Supreme Court Board on Professional Responsibility**. Also noteworthy is her appointment by the governor to the **Tennessee Commission on Human Rights**.

Since her arrival in DC, she has made her presence well-known within the community and the profession. Ms. Lipscomb currently serves on the DC Bar Board of Governors, and was the

vice chair of the [DC Bar Rules on Professional Conduct Committee](#). In addition to the DC Bar, some of the voluntary bars she is involved with include are the [Bar Association of the District of Columbia](#), [Department of Justice Association of Black Attorneys](#), Women's Bar Association, and the [Washington Bar Association](#).

Concluding with a question and answer period, the panelists again stressed the benefits of and need for involvement at any level. Even if not running for an elected bar position, there are multiple opportunities to contribute and make a difference. As noted by Ms. Possesky: "For nearly a century, WBA women have stood as beacons of leadership, instruments of change in the profession and the embodiment of the ideals of our profession." Active involvement is critical to continuing this legacy.

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## Presidential Efforts to Abolish the Use of Forced Labor to Perform U.S. Government Contracts Overseas

By Sam W. McCahon, McCahon Law Offices

*On November 8, 2012, the International Law Forum hosted a panel discussion entitled "Abolishing Human Trafficking in Government Contracts: How to Comply With New Mandates and Mitigate Risk Exposure." The program was co-sponsored by the ABA and featured an address by [ABA President Laurel Bellows](#). The program was designed to raise awareness of what constitutes human trafficking and address how a new executive order will impose significant requirements on government contractors to ensure that trafficked labor is not used on their contracts. As a follow up to this well-attended event, the following article was written by [Sam McCahon](#), one of the program's panelists, who is an attorney and internationally recognized leader in developing strategies and taking action to try to mitigate the scourge of human trafficking.*

*"The United States government will lead by example...to make sure our contractors do not engage in forced labor. I've signed a new executive order that raises the bar...we're making it clear that American tax dollars must never, ever be used to support the trafficking of human beings. We mean what we say. We will enforce it."*

**Remarks by President Obama, September 25, 2012**

On September 25, 2012, President Obama signed the Executive Order "[Strengthening Protections against Trafficking in Persons in Government Contracts](#)." The Order is designed to protect vulnerable populations from becoming victims of human trafficking on government contracts performed overseas. The President's action mandates companies adopt certain compliance measures consistent with the Order. Included in the prohibited conduct is:

- The charging of fees by recruiters to workers in exchange for receiving a job;
- The retention of a worker's travel document and restriction of travel;
- Deception in the recruiting of workers, including misrepresentations regarding the work to be performed, location of work and the pay to be received.

The Order mandates that contractors have a corporate compliance program enforcing all of these prohibitions. The Order also requires that the prime contractor certify that they have no credible information that human trafficking is being used to support their contract or any of the subcontracts under their authority.

This article will provide context of the predominate circumstances on subcontracts overseas that gave rise to the Executive Order. According to U.S. government reports, in Iraq alone at least 500,000 men and women from developing nations, referred to as Third Country Nationals (TCNs) have been performing base support operations (BSO), operating dining facilities, laundry services, janitorial work, and general labor.<sup>1</sup> They work six to seven days per week, 12 hours per day. The fact that for the last 10 years they have been victims of human trafficking is not disputed. U.S. Army commanders, investigative journalists, film makers, the War Time Contracting Commission, and Congress have all conducted investigations that have reached the same conclusion. The trafficking is prolific, unabated, and inconsistent with American values and ideals of freedom. The number of TCNs used to provide BSO is

staggering. The manner in which they came to work on U.S. government contracts in combat zones is defined by the U.S. Department of State as human trafficking. What keeps them working in combat zones to support the U.S. troops is modern day slavery.

### **The Scheme**

The scheme used to traffic the victims on government contracts is not novel. Rather, it is a tried and tested business model used in the Middle East where the contracts are performed and in the Indian subcontinent where the workers originate. Further evidence of the standard scheme can be found in the annual [Reports on Trafficking in Persons](#) compiled by the [U.S. Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons](#).<sup>2</sup>

### **The Recruiting Process**

In order to recruit and maintain the use of slave labor to perform BSO services on government contracts, the subcontractors must work in close coordination with the recruiters. The purpose of identifying and recruiting the victim laborers has three objectives: 1) obtain a worker who meets the ideal victim profile; 2) create circumstances sufficient to prevent the laborer from leaving once he discovers he has been fraudulently recruited; and 3) obtain fees from the worker that will go to enrich both the recruiter and subcontractors through a simple kickback scheme detailed below. According to the U.S. Commission on War Time Contracting and the U.S. Department of State, the kickback, excessive recruiting fees, and deceptive hiring practices are standard in the countries from which the subcontracts originate. One member of the Commission described its findings as the mere “tip of the iceberg” concerning the magnitude of the human trafficking problems in Afghanistan and Iraq.<sup>3</sup>

The contracts between the American prime and the Arabian Gulf subcontractors are firm-fixed price agreements. Consequently, the lower the cost of performance by the subcontractor, the more profits the subcontractor makes from the prime and ultimately, the U.S. taxpayer. The U.S. taxpayer does not recognize any cost savings from using slave labor to perform the contracts. While the subcontractors’ profits are unrelated to the cost of performance, we do know that they are making upwards of 75% profit margins.<sup>4</sup> The subcontractor also seeks the highest level of control over the workers, strategically using the recruitment process to accomplish this task. To help achieve this objective, the subcontractor provides the recruiter with the victim profile and negotiates the official terms of the arrangement: the price to be paid by the subcontractor’s company per person recruited, associated costs, as well as the illegal kickback to be paid by the recruiter to the subcontractor in exchange for receiving the recruitment work.

The recruiter seeks men from rural farming and fishing villages. These victims are preferred because they are: 1) less educated; 2) desperate for any work; 3) lack resources necessary to pay the recruitment “fee”; 4) more naïve concerning fraudulent recruiting practices; and 5) homeowners or have immediate family members who own a home that can be used as collateral for a loan to pay the recruitment fee. All of these factors are critical elements necessary to obtain the initial and continued control of the victim.

Once the victims are identified, the recruiter tells them of high paying jobs awaiting them in the Arabian Gulf region. Often times they are informed they will be working in five star hotels and receiving pay ranging from \$800 to \$1,500 per month. They are then told that all they need to do is pay a recruiting fee ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000. The payment of the fee is beyond the reach of the victim. Five thousand dollars is the equivalent of seven years’ wages for him. Nonetheless, the commission of \$5,000 appears to be all that stands between the worker and the realization of a dream: being able to send remittances back his family and enhance their standard of living. Therefore, the victim approaches the village loan shark for the money to pay the recruiter. Typically, the interest rate is between 35% to 45%. The family home is commonly taken as collateral for the loan. The victim rationalizes that by earning pay of \$1,000 per month, he can repay the principal and interest within six to eight months, provided he sends all the money earned to the loan shark.

The victim meets the recruiter at the airport and pays the recruitment fee of \$5,000, an amount the recruiter splits with the subcontractor as a kickback. The worker still has not received a written contract and, in most cases, never will. When the victim deplanes he is often times bewildered when he discovers that he is not working in Jordan, Dubai, or Kuwait. Rather, he finds himself in a combat zone with rockets exploding, sirens sounding, and the other men in the camps running for cover.

When the worker does receive his first pay the amount is less than half that promised by the

recruiter, usually between \$150 to \$500 per month for working 12 hours per day, six to seven days per week in a combat zone. The worker confronts the subcontractor about the disparity between what he was promised, where he would work and what he has received. The victim assumes there has been a mistake. (Actually, the pay disparity and work site location was intentionally calculated and agreed to between the subcontractor and recruiter to enhance subcontractor control over the victim.) The subcontractor tells the victim “I don’t know what the recruiter told you, but this is where you will work and what you will make. Take it or leave it.” The victim is now barely able to pay the interest on the loan to the village to loan shark. He realizes that he has been defrauded, but he has no alternative but to stay and work in a combat zone. Going home is not an option.

If the family home was used as collateral for the loan, a failure to pay the interest would trigger repossession. If the loan was unsecured, or at times merely as an interim measure to encourage payment on the loan, the loan shark takes complete “authority” over the women in the victim’s family. Often times the exercise of this “authority” includes sexually assaulting and raping members of the victim’s family. Occasionally, the assault occurs publicly in order to enhance the desired effect of total subjugation. The loan shark may take action against the worker himself. In a recent example, a laborer borrowed 10,000 Indian rupees from a village loan shark to pay the recruiting fee for local work. The job didn’t work out and the laborer returned to the loan shark 5,000 rupees of the 10,000 borrowed. The loan shark responded by dowsing the laborer in kerosene in front of his family and set him ablaze, killing the worker. The amount of debt, 5,000 rupees, is equivalent to USD \$100.<sup>5</sup>

The President signed an Executive Order prohibiting the conduct that results in the use of slave labor to care for our troops. Congress has passed still another bill designed to end the national shame, the **End Human Trafficking on Government Contracts Act of 2012**.<sup>6</sup> What remains to be seen is whether the President’s Executive agencies—Department of Justice; Department of Defense, and Department of State—will follow the mandates of Congress and the President. Will the agencies’ leadership use the newfound tools to abolish the practice, or will they carry on with “business as usual”, allowing taxpayer dollars to directly pay contractors for trafficking in human flesh for enhanced profits?

<sup>1</sup> Department of Defense Contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan: Background and Analysis, Congressional Research Services Report, No.R40764, July 2, 2010, pages 7-12.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State Report on Human Trafficking 2012, page 184; see also, In the Name of Progress: Illegal Human Trafficking Within Government Contracts, Kavinniminil/McCahon, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Magazine, Vol. 25, No. 3, May/June 2011, page 20.

<sup>3</sup> Testimony of Don Zakheim, Commissioner, Wartime Contracting Commission before Senate Panel, referencing “Final Report to Congress, Wartime Contracting Commission,” August 2011, page 94.

<sup>4</sup> Testimony of April G. Stephenson, Director Defense Contract Audit Agency, before the Commission on Wartime Contracting, May 4, 2009, page 21.

<sup>5</sup> “Victims of Complacency”: The Ongoing Trafficking and Abuse of Third Country Nationals by U.S. Government Contractors, Yale Law School/ACLU, June 2012, page 23.

<sup>6</sup> Senate bill 2234 was amended and attached as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 201, S.3254. The NDAA passed the full Senate on December 4, 2012.

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## Communications Policies for the Next Administration

*By Jennifer Duane, Department of Commerce-NTIA; Co-Chair, Communications Law Forum*

On November 1, 2012, the **Communications Law Forum** presented a brown bag lunch program that examined the communications policies that would likely be front and center in



the next presidential administration. Held at the Patton Boggs Conference Center, the program featured **John Kneuer**, a former advisor to President Bush as the Administrator of the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), and **Jim Kohlenberger**, a former Chief of Staff of the Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House under President Obama. Mr. Kneuer discussed the likely communications policy views of a Romney administration while Mr. Kohlenberger provided the perspective of the Obama administration. The two speakers did not specifically represent the campaign of either candidate, but rather provided their views on the most important communications issues likely to confront the next administration regardless of who prevailed in the Presidential election.

Mr. Kohlenberger began by highlighting several of the Obama administration's key initiatives in the communications arena. He noted that, upon taking office, President Obama immediately confronted the scheduled transition from analog to digital television and the administration's prompt action in overseeing a smooth transition prevented the widespread disruption of television service to the public. He also discussed the emphasis President Obama placed on investments in broadband infrastructure and adoption, particularly through the **Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)** grant program, created by the Recovery Act and administered by **NTIA**. He also mentioned the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) rollout of the **National Broadband Plan**, as well as the creation of the **National Broadband Map** at NTIA. Mr. Kohlenberger expected a continued emphasis on policies that spur innovations in technology during the second term of an Obama administration, including spearheading spectrum sharing and fostering open Internet governance.

Mr. Kneuer indicated that Governor Romney would take a deregulatory approach to communications policies, seeking to avoid top-down, government-driven solutions and encourage market-based options whenever possible. He criticized the Obama administration for adopting an overly burdensome regulatory model, particularly when it came to enforcing net neutrality policies and reforming the universal service fund and intercarrier compensation rules.

Both Mr. Kohlenberger and Mr. Kneuer placed several wireless issues at the forefront of the next administration's top communications priorities, including the auction of the public safety spectrum authorized under the **Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012** and the establishment of the **First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)**, which is an independent authority within NTIA charged with taking all actions necessary to ensure the design, construction, and operation of a nationwide public safety broadband network. Neither Mr. Kohlenberger nor Mr. Kneuer thought that there would be major differences in how an Obama or Romney administration handled public safety-related issues. In all, the program presented a fascinating look at what the communications priorities of the next presidential administration might be and prompted some lively exchanges between the speakers as they debated the very different policy perspectives of President Obama and Governor Romney.

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## Events

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

### [Holiday Tea](#)

Presented by: Communications Law Forum

Register early as this event will sell out! Our annual Holiday Tea promises to be a festive, delicious and congenial experience – the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your friends! Featuring remarks by Maureen Ohlhausen, a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, February 28, 2013

### [WBA Foundation Wine Tasting & Silent Auction](#)

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## Feature: Stop Human Trafficking

*By Laurel Bellows, 2012-2013 President, American Bar Association*

Like many other domestic workers, Zipora left her home with a diplomat who brought her to the United States on a special visa. But when she arrived in the United States, he confiscated her passport and forced her to do unpaid work 12 to 14 hours a day. She cleaned his home, cooked for his catering company, and cared for his children. For four years, her life was a nightmare of imprisonment by her fellow countryman—someone she had trusted.

Fortunately, lawyers came to Zipora's rescue. [Martina Vandenberg](#), who was representing human trafficking victims pro bono, and WBA Past President [Lorie Masters](#), along with two associates, helped Zipora sue the diplomat, who is from Tanzania. Thanks to their efforts, Zipora won a \$1 million judgment.

Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing and most lucrative crimes in the world. According to the U.S. State Department, 21 million people are held involuntarily as modern-day slaves across the globe. Eighty percent are women and children.

Thousands of those human trafficking victims, like Zipora, are in the United States. Many victims are compelled to perform labor in homes and sweatshops. More than 100,000 U.S. citizens are forced to provide sex and labor services for their captors' profit.

The inspiring story of Zipora and the lawyers who represented her motivated me to choose the battle against human trafficking as one of the American Bar Association's priorities this year. My own experience also guided me.

As a young lawyer, I handled prostitution cases and helped women who were victimized by traffickers, prosecuted in the courts, and denied their freedom. They were also left without services—such as job training or housing placement that would have provided opportunities for their recovery and self-sufficiency.

Fortunately, awareness of human trafficking in our own country is growing, as are the programs to combat this crisis. As lawyers, we must commit ourselves to the fight for trafficking victims' fundamental human rights.

The ABA combats trafficking by urging courts and police to screen for victim abuse and exploitation. We also seek to protect victims by encouraging lawyers to provide pro bono legal assistance. But our work is far from complete.

The ABA's new [Task Force on Human Trafficking](#) has begun several initiatives to strengthen pro bono networks to address the civil legal needs of trafficking victims. The task force recently conducted one of three national training sessions for individuals in the legal system to learn how to treat victims as victims and not as criminals.

The first session, which was held in Chicago, will be duplicated in San Diego on February 22 and in Washington, DC, on April 19. These programs are attended by medical personnel, social service agency employees, prosecutors and judges, nonprofit representatives, volunteer lawyers interested in helping trafficking victims, and policymakers.

The goal of these training programs is to help those likely to come into contact with trafficking victims understand the reality and impact of this growing problem—from showing how trauma affects victims, to illustrating the barriers they encounter in accessing help and resources.

from the event benefit the WBA Foundation Founders Fellowship. The Fellowship, established in 2006 and awarded annually, provides a stipend to an area law student to work with a local legal services provider on projects to benefit women and children in our community.

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The battle for justice in Zipora's case is not over. Ms. Masters and Ms. Vandenberg, a member of the ABA's Task Force on Human Trafficking and founder of the Human Trafficking Pro Bono Center in Washington, DC, are working to collect the \$1 million judgment and have Tanzania suspended from the special visa program for domestic workers.

I hope Zipora's story and the initiatives I outlined to combat human trafficking motivate you to join our effort. Together, we can end the exploitation and abuse that defines human trafficking and shatters the lives of hundreds of thousands of people and their families in our own country and millions throughout our world.

This year, we mark the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. President Lincoln promised a nation free of slavery—a nation where all are bestowed with the equal rights and opportunities that every person deserves. Lincoln's promise, however, is yet to be fulfilled.

In the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln made a promise, a promise for the freedom of the slaves of his time. But he also made a promise for the future. "I do order," his proclamation read, "that all persons held as slaves ... are, and henceforward shall be free."

Let us unite **NOW** to abolish slavery in the United States!

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Thursday, January 24, 2013

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  - [Sandman Receives WCL President's Award](#)
- [Welcome New Members](#)

## Wall Honored With First Amendment Award

**Barbara Wall**, Vice President and Senior Associate General Counsel for **Gannett Co. Inc.**, was honored at Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press **First Amendment Awards Dinner** in September. The awards recognize efforts to promote press freedom and government transparency. Ms. Wall was recognized for tirelessly leading legal challenges that protect the First Amendment rights for all journalists. Gannett CEO Gracia Martore presented the award to Ms. Wall.

Ms. Wall was also a [2004 WBA Star of the Bar](#).



*Barbara Wall*

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## Lee Named to WBJ Power 100

Debra Lee, one of WBA's **2011 Women Lawyers of the Year** was named to the **Washington Business Journal's Power 100**, a list of the region's most influential business leaders. The list recognized local business leaders who are influential, powerful, respected, and connected.

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## Jakovic and Keeney Honored



This year's Partners Dinner will include a panel of senior-level women discussing leadership and business development issues and challenges for female partners in today's business climate. The evening will be a fabulous networking and development event for female partners across the region.

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[The Fellows of the American Bar Foundation](#) has announced that District of Columbia Fellows Chair **Ellen Jakovic** of Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Fellows Secretary **John C. "Jack" Keeney** of the Legal Aid Society of DC are the recipients of [The Fellows 2013 Outstanding State Chair Award](#). The award is given annually to State Leaders of The Fellows who have demonstrated a dedication to the work of the Foundation and the mission of The Fellows through exceptional efforts on behalf of The Fellows at the state level.

Both Ms. Jakovic and Mr. Keeney are sustaining members of the WBA. Ms. Jakovic is a past president of both the WBA and the WBA Foundation.

The award will be presented during [The Fellows 57th Annual Awards Banquet](#) during the ABA Midyear Meeting in Dallas in February 2013.

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## Sandman Receives WCL President's Award

**James Sandman**, a WBA Foundation Board member and President of the [Legal Services Corporation](#), received the [Washington Council of Lawyers Presidents' Award](#). [Click here to read more](#) about Mr. Sandman's achievement.

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## Welcome New Members

Jenny Brody	Nikita Mehta
Maximilienne Bishop	Jackie Meier
The Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby	Jessica Morrison
Diane Bradley	Milissa Murray
Alana C. Brown	The Honorable Kathryn A. Oberly
Sheila Buenafe	Kathrene Perakis
Sarah Coffey	Chelsea M. Peter
Jeanne Marie Cook	Naeha Prakash
Carol A. Dalton	Maribeth Raffinan
The Honorable Marisa Demeo	Kirsten Robbins
Juliane DeMarco	Debra Lee Roth
Ruthanne M. Deutsch	Louise E. Ryder
Jennie E. Ekdahl	Jessica Sackin
Sharon F. Gustafson	Anne Scott
Laila Haider	Becca Schofield
Kathleen Hale	Casselle A. E. Smith
Diane R. Hamar	Alexia Smokler
Gwyneth Hambley	Candace Smyth
Rosemary Harold	Sarah Sprinkle
The Honorable Karen Aileen Howze	Rachel L. Stapleton
Mary S. KivLighan	Laurie Sternberg
Joan E. Lanigan	The Honorable Phyllis D. Thompson
Dionna M. Lewis	Victoria A. Turco
Inna Loring	Rebecca Ronzio Valentino
Justina Martynaityte	Eleanor M. Vuono
Beverly Mbu	Carole J. Yanofsky

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Women's Bar Association DC & WBA Foundation  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 446  
Washington, DC 20006  
[www.wbdc.org](http://www.wbdc.org) | [admin@wbdc.org](mailto:admin@wbdc.org)  
202-639-8880 | 202-639-8889 fax

November/December 2012 Issue

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## Events

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

[Solo and Small Practice Monthly Luncheon](#)

Presented by: Solo and Small Practice Forum

This event is open to lawyers from solo and small firms, as well as attorneys looking to join solo or small firm life.

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

[Supreme Court of the United States Group Swearing-In Ceremony](#)

The WBA is pleased to provide its members with the opportunity to be admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. A Large Group Admission will take place on January 22, 2013, where over 20 WBA members will be sworn in to the Bar. Following the ceremony, there will be a breakfast reception for the admittees and their guests.

Thursday, January 24, 2013

[2013 WBA Partners Dinner](#)

## President's Column



By Laura Possessky, WBA President

### What Grace Can Teach Us

This year a girl named Grace, who lives in my hometown, came up with an idea when she learned her hair was too short to donate to [Locks of Love](#). She set out to make and sell 50 tutus before her 8th birthday and donate the proceeds to the local children's hospital. A month before her birthday, she reached her goal . . . and decided to keep going.

We could all learn something from Grace. She wanted to make a difference and help someone. When she could not do what others were doing, she looked for another way to accomplish her goal. She did not let her short hair get in the way of her desire to help sick children.

Grace did not accomplish her goal alone. She had helpers. While she took ownership of the project, she collaborated with others by asking friends and family to spread the word and to help sell her tutus. Another person from my hometown, Fred Rogers, often told this story:

*"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of 'disaster', I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers—so many caring people in this world."*

As attorneys, we are all trained to be helpers. We advocate, we settle disputes, and we implement change. Yet, even with professional training and experience, making a difference and affecting change sometimes seem impossible, particularly in the face of adversity. Change is not an experience people tend to embrace. It can be unpleasant or even painful, particularly if you happen to be comfortable with the status quo. What's more, the challenge to make a personal transformation can feel just as great as the effort required for societal change—and yet at times a few words or a simple gesture is enough to create a world of difference.

Earlier this month, the WBA endorsed the nominations of two phenomenal women for the ABA Commission on Women Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award: **The Honorable Gladys Kessler** and **Nancy Duff Campbell**. Both women are remarkable for their ability to effect societally-transforming change. And yet, a striking similarity in their accomplishments is the fact that neither one could do it alone. Each one built, fostered, nurtured and is nurtured by a community of people who care about a better society—one that is supportive of families and children with equal protection under the law.

As a community of women in the legal profession, we are fortunate to count Judge Kessler and "Duffy" Campbell among the many trailblazing members of the WBA who have exemplified professional excellence and received national recognition for their ability to implement change. These women lead by example and inspire us to carry on.

While we honor these women as being among our most prominent change leaders, many of our members are exceptionally talented at advocating for change. In fact, many of us may find that those with the greatest impact on our lives may be the friend sitting across the table at the coffee shop or the person who "poked" you this morning on Facebook: people who simply

This year's Partners Dinner will include a panel of senior-level women discussing leadership and business development issues and challenges for female partners in today's business climate. The evening will be a fabulous networking and development event for female partners across the region.

#### SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, February 28, 2013

#### **WBA Foundation Wine Tasting & Silent Auction**

Presented by: WBA Foundation  
Featuring an amazing array of fabulous wines, with pairings. Silent auction items and door prizes further enhance the networking event. Items include jewelry, vacation getaways, sports and theatre tickets, unique services, and more! Proceeds from the event benefit the WBA Foundation Founders Fellowship. The Fellowship, established in 2006 and awarded annually, provides a stipend to an area law student to work with a local legal services provider on projects to benefit women and children in our community.

Thursday, March 14, 2013

#### **A Conversation with The Honorable Patricia Wald**

Presented by: Communications Law Forum

Join us during Women's History Month in honoring Patricia McGowan Wald, the first woman appointed as a judge to any of the United States Courts of Appeal. Judge Wald has received numerous honors to recognize her exceptional career as a jurist and her numerous leadership roles in professional associations, national commissions and legal reforms efforts in the U.S. and abroad, influenced other women to pursue legal careers, and opened doors closed previously to women.

remind you now and again that they care.

This month's newsletter features articles and information on programs about change and the possibilities of making a difference—whether in your life or the world. I hope you will find inspiration in our contributors' articles and remember ... always look for the helpers.

Want to comment? Join me on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) or email me at [president@wbadc.org](mailto:president@wbadc.org).

For more about Grace, visit [KDKA News Report](#) or [toughgirltutus.wordpress.com](http://toughgirltutus.wordpress.com).

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Women's Bar Association DC & WBA Foundation  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 446  
Washington, DC 20006  
[www.wbade.org](http://www.wbade.org) | [admin@wbade.org](mailto:admin@wbade.org)  
202-639-8880 | 202-639-8889 fax