

# RAISING THE BAR



## September/October 2017



WBA president Kerri Castellini (center) with Star of the Bar honoree **Cristina Carvalho**, Managing Partner, Arent Fox LLP (left) and Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award recipient **Kandis C. Gibson**, Attorney, Foster, Murphy, Altman & Nickel, PC.

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# WBA Marches On at Stars of the Bar

WBA's fall kick-off event, Stars of the Bar, was attended by over 275 members and friends of the WBA. Attorneys, judges, law students, professors, and industry vendors gathered on September 13, in the beautiful atrium of the Columbia Square office building to recognize this year's honorees, network, and learn about program and volunteer opportunities with the WBA and WBA Foundation.

WBA's 2017-2018 bar year theme is March On. In her remarks, WBA President Kerri Castellini cited the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession's 2017 review, which reported that women make up only 21% of law firm partners and only 17% of equity partners. Great strides have been made in the WBA's first century, and together we can continue to affect positive change for women in the profession.

\*\*article continued on page 4\*\*

# NWLC Launches Legal Network to Battle Sex Discrimination

In response to extensive and unprecedented threats to women's rights, the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) announced that it is launching the first national legal network to combat sex discrimination faced by women and girls. The <a href="Legal Network for Gender Equity">Legal Network for Gender Equity</a> has initially recruited 75 attorneys from across the country who stand ready to represent women and girls experiencing sex discrimination on the job, at school, and in the health care system.

\*\*Continued on page 6\*\*

# Features

# WBA Marches On at Stars of the Bar (continued from page 1)

Photo credit: Mark Van Bergh Photography













Immigration Law Forum Co-Chairs, Leticia Corona and Pauline Schwartz, with Christianna Prokop, asked attendees to put a pin in the country that reflects their heritage to demonstrate the diverse backgrounds in the WBA.



Francisca Otero, Judith del Cuadro-Zimmerman, Will Mount, Marjorie O'Connell & Nancy Kuhn



Christina Cobb & Hon. Shana Matini



Raleigh Lancaster & Sara Nasseri



Amanda Tomack, Stephanie Tait, Allison



WBA past presidents Jessica Adler, Sonia Murphy & Susan Kovarovics

### ■ WBA Marches On at Stars of the Bar continued from page 1

"We are here tonight not to be reminded of the work that is left to be done, but to remember that, together, we've got this!" said Ms. Castellni. "In this room, we have the combined intellect, grit, tenacity, and creativity to imagine a future for the legal profession that is fair to all regardless of race, sex, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital, or socioeconomic status."

Ms. Castellini introduced the 2017 Star of the Bar, **Cristina Carvalho**, Managing Partner of Arent Fox LLP, based in the firm's Washington DC office.



Cristina Carvalho

In discussing how Ms. Carvalho epitomizes the March On theme, Ms. Castellini noted that Ms. Carvalho is among women who have blazed a path to top positions. "These women have performed at the highest echelons of success in our profession, and their accomplishments, often despite adversity, deserve our

celebration. Down their paths we will continue to march on, following in the example they have set," Ms. Castellini said.

Ms. Carvalho's remarks are featured on page 5 of this newsletter.

At Arent Fox, Ms. Carvalho oversees an international practice that encompasses commercial transactions, intellectual property, licensing, and technology for leading U.S. and foreign companies. Throughout her career, she has advised clients on strategies for navigating different legal systems and cultures to realize opportunities in both mature and emerging markets. As Managing Partner, Ms. Carvalho helps guide Arent Fox's commitment to delivering exceptional legal work, promotes an inclusive environment where diverse talents can succeed, and ensures the firm remains a leader in the private bar's public service efforts.

The Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award was presented to **Kandis Gibson**, a senior associate at Foster, Murphy, Altman & Nickel, PC.



Kandis Gibson

The Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award is given out to a WBA member who has given above and beyond through their volunteer activities within the WBA.

Ms. Gibson joined the WBA in 2009, her first full year in practice, and she has made an impact as a volunteer in the years that followed. Ms.

Gibson served previously as a co-chair of the Mentoring Committee and has spent the last several years working on WBA's Fundraising and Development committee. She is responsible for the WBA Fireside Chat Series, which features accomplished women providing candid, intimate conversations about their careers. Ms. Castellini noted, "Kandis has worked tirelessly for the WBA in the last several years without holding a formal title or position, and her efforts combined with her humility deserve our thanks!"

At Foster, Murphy, Altman & Nickel, Ms. Gibson focuses her practice on Section 337 proceedings at the U.S. International Trade Commission involving unfair trade practices, including patent, trademark and copyright infringement, and misappropriation of trade secrets.

During the networking reception, attendees had an opportunity to meet and talk with WBA and WBA Foundation leaders; to learn about the WBA's programs, services, and benefits; to find out how they can become more involved; and to meet with WBA Foundation members to learn about their grantees and how individual contributions can be combined with that of others for a greater impact.

Many thanks to **Judith del Cuadro-Zimmerman** and **Renée-Lauren Ellis** for co-chairing this year's event.

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# Remarks By the 2017 Star of the Bar Recipient, Cristina Carvalho, Managing Partner, Arent Fox LLP



Cristina Carvalho

Thanks so much to the Women's Bar Association for this recognition. I'm very honored.

As some may suspect, my background is a bit different than your average managing partner. I'm a native of Brazil and I came to the U.S. more than 20 years ago to get a Master's degree in Intellectual Property Law and ended up staying and re-starting my legal career. This country has given me great opportunities and I am very thankful.

I started practicing in New York, and about 20 years ago joined Arent Fox in DC. I married an American from upstate New York and we had two children, born and raised in Washington, DC. Other than my husband and kids, the rest of my family is still back in Brazil. So, I straddle both worlds.

I still remember the day I interviewed with Arent Fox. I knew right away this was where I wanted to work. Arent Fox was a firm where anyone with talent, no matter their background, could succeed. Where differences were seen as strengths and not weaknesses.

I was given opportunities to work with smart lawyers, got the support to develop my own book of business, and the visibility to demonstrate my abilities.

As the Managing Partner of such a special place, I view a big part of my job as making sure that we continue to foster an environment where diverse talent–especially women–can build a successful career and get to the highest positions of leadership.

While firm management can't control every outcome, we can control and influence some.

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Check out more photos from Stars of the Bar on our <u>Facebook page</u>.

Many firms have the right programs to develop and retain talent, but management needs to be very hands-on to ensure the participation of diverse talent in those programs.

Women and minorities in law firms should be given the same opportunities for training, developing business, staffing significant matters for institutional clients, and taking over business from retiring partners; and they should be mentored by rainmakers and have the support and marketing resources to build their personal brands inside and outside the firm.

Management should also engage women in initiatives that have high visibility within the firm so they become top of mind for elected positions of leadership.

In sum: Opportunity. Mentorship. And Visibility.

Those are three very important things that firm leadership can provide that are in our control and can be very impactful on women's careers.

Let's all work together on these three things – and hopefully a few years from now we will be looking at a very different face of law firm leadership!

## **Features**

# NWLC Launches Legal Network to Battle Sex Discrimination

(continued from page 1)



The Center is assembling the infrastructure for the network to become fully operational in the next several months and will continue to expand its network—with the goal of attorneys participating in every state.

"I'm thrilled to lead an initiative to increase the resources available to aggressively take on legal challenges and defend women's rights—especially at this moment when civil rights enforcement and protections are at grave risk," said **Fatima Goss Graves**, NWLC President and CEO. "We've seen a surge of gender-based hostility and harassment across the nation. Escalating federal rollbacks to critical protections in education, the workplace, and health care—which disproportionately threaten low-income women and women of color—have inspired many lawyers to get involved in the legal network and fight for the rights of women and girls."

The first case arising out of Center intake and taken up by a law firm participating in the Legal Network for Gender Equity is that of Kassandra Lawrence, a veteran law enforcement officer in Stafford, Virginia, who faced discrimination on the job during two pregnancies and after she returned to work following the birth of her children. Lawrence's superiors refused her requests for work accommodations during her pregnancies, required her to take unpaid leave even though she had additional paid leave time in reserve, and would not allow her colleagues to donate their paid sick leave to her when she required surgery after her second pregnancy. Other employees were routinely given work accommodations and allowed to receive donated paid sick leave. Lawrence lost wages, employment benefits, and experienced emotional distress as a result of the discrimination. The Spiggle Law Firm, which specializes in pregnancy discrimination cases, recently filed a lawsuit on Lawrence's behalf against the Stafford County Sheriff's office. Tom Spiggle and Phillis Rambsy, partners at the Spiggle Law Firm, will lead the representation of Lawrence.

Recent actions that will affect the rights of women and girls include: the Department of Health and Human Services' far-reaching new rules that roll back the Affordable Care Act's birth control benefit by extending exemptions that allow employers who claim religious or moral objections to refuse to provide birth control coverage to their employees; the Department of Education's recent revoking of the 2011 Title IX sexual assault guidance, which will discourage

students from reporting sexual assault, create uncertainty for schools on how to follow the law, and make campuses less safe; the Office of Management and Budget's decision to halt the EEO-1 equal pay data collection, which required large companies to confidentially report to the Equal **Employment Opportunity Commission information about** what they pay their employees by job category, sex, race, and ethnicity; the Department of Justice's recent announcement that LGBT individuals should be excluded from federal sex discrimination protections—counter to prevailing legal trends; and the Department of Labor's proposal to eliminate the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, which enforces the equal opportunity laws that apply to federal contractors. These efforts to weaken enforcement of women's rights to be free from discrimination make the availability of attorneys willing to take these cases on more important than ever.

The Center will serve as the Network's hub and first line of contact for women and girls sharing their personal experiences of discrimination and seeking legal information and assistance. The Center will oversee the intake process, provide women and girls legal resources and names of network attorneys who have expressed willingness to take on cases, track trends in complaints over time, and serve as co-counsel in selected cases. It will also provide resources on key legal developments regarding sex discrimination and harassment to Network attorneys and other interested parties, expanding the capacity of the private bar to undertake this work.

**Debra Katz**, a member of NWLC's Legal Network for Gender Equity, expert on sex discrimination law, and partner in Katz, Marshall & Banks, has hailed the initiative, stating, "NWLC's leadership has demonstrated to at least two generations of women attorneys, like myself, how to be fierce legal advocates. As members of the Network, my firm and dozens of others in the private bar will help ensure that institutions that seek to deprive us of our basic legal and constitutional rights to equal pay, gender equality, and reproductive rights are held accountable."

For more information and to join the Network, visit <a href="https://nwlc.org/join-the-legal-network">nwlc.org/join-the-legal-network</a>.

The National Women's Law Center is a non-profit organization that has been working since 1972 to advance and protect women's equality and opportunity. The Center focuses on major policy areas of importance to women and their families including economic security, education, employment and health, with special attention given to the concerns of low-income women. For more information on the Center, visit <a href="majority.center">nwlc.org</a>.

## **Features**

# Montgomery County, MD Green Bank Catalyzes Local Energy Efficiency Projects

By Cathy Pagano, WBA Board of Directors



Cathy Pagano

Our capital area is a true leader in many areas, and now, our local area jurisdictions are leading in green financing, specifically, funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Montgomery County, Maryland made history in June 2015, when the County Council passed legislation to create a Montgomery County

Green Bank (MCGB) (Bill 18-15) (Endnote 1). With the passage of this legislation, our neighbor county became the first local jurisdiction in the United States to establish a formal green bank organization (Endnote 2)¹. This innovative local policy puts our capital area at the forefront of green financing. Modeled after similar state-level legislation in Connecticut, Montgomery County's legislation provides for the establishment of an organization with the singular goal of increasing investment and implementation of clean energy improvements across all of the county's sectors.

"The Montgomery County Green Bank will seek to use its seed capital in innovative ways, to spur private capital investment, provide unique programs to target and open up new markets to energy-saving investments, and contribute to a growing regional market of energy financing in the larger DC metropolitan area..." Id. (See My Green Montgomery website at <a href="mailto:montgomerycountymd.gov/green/energy/green-bank.html">montgomerycountymd.gov/green/energy/green-bank.html</a>).

A green bank doesn't look or act like a typical bank; for example, it does not take deposits. It is best to think of it as a fund, and not a bank. The green bank seeks to multiply its impact by leveraging its resources 5 to 10 to 20 times with those of the private lending sector and therefore create a much bigger impact on the environment and breadth of clean energy improvements. A green bank's role is to de-risk the clean energy financing environment for these private sector lenders and attract them into the market. Once there, the expectation is that the private sector lenders will see the strength of these investments and scale-up their long-term investment in these clean energy efforts.

Around the country and across the world, more efficient heating and air conditioning systems, solar panels, geothermal energy projects, and more clean energy technologies are being built or installed with the help of this type of green



Solar Panels at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station

bank financing. Green banks drive energy efficiency and renewable energy project deployment by connecting the right funding sources and a range of financing tools with people seeking to build green buildings or to install green property improvements. They can make financing of energy efficiency retrofits much more practical for property owners. For example, green banks use innovative financing methods to be a catalyst for projects designed to reduce energy cost and use by more than 15%, like residential or commercial property owners undertaking combined lighting and heating retrofits and installation of solar panels.

Montgomery County's Green Bank is organized as a nonprofit, and its goal is to work "...with private lenders and investors to increase the flow of investment to homeowners, multifamily property owners, businesses, and institutions for the installation of greener technologies." See My Green Montgomery Website (Endnote 3). These technologies reduce energy costs, improve health, increase resilience, and lower the environmental impact of energy consumption. This new effort is exciting because green banks provide benefits to all the stakeholders. Green banks are a financial win for private partners/lenders, commercial project managers, and homeowners, because they enhance markets that are not fully responding to the demand for green projects. The projects they spawn are a financial win for community business and residential property owners because they decrease energy costs and can enhance property values. And green banks are an environmental win because the carbon-intensive

energy that is saved or displaced contributes to significant greenhouse gas emission reductions.

On June 15, 2017, the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Green Bank (MCGB) announced the appointment of Tom Deyo as the first Chief Executive Officer of the Montgomery County Green Bank. Id. CEO Deyo will help develop the green bank locally to ensure that residents and businesses in the county have access to more flexible financing options for clean energy and energy efficiency projects. Tom Deyo and Alex Kragie of the Coalition for Green Capital shared with WBA that "...there could be as much as \$2 billion in potential green finance projects awaiting implementation here in Montgomery County." Mr. Deyo also noted that "[t]he bank will help Montgomery County meet its aggressive goals of 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 while creating clean energy jobs and new business opportunities."

Montgomery County is in good company. Globally, the Green Bank model has been a key factor in "...deploying billions of dollars of public-private investment into clean, lower-emission energy technologies, catalyzing the growth of the clean energy economy..." Id. As of 2016, 13 green investment banks exist all over the world (Endnote 4). See Green and Resilience Banks (NRDC, Coalition for Green Capital, Climate Finance Advisors), p. 13. "...At the end of 2016, U.S. Green Banks had participated in over \$2 billion of clean energy transactions. And globally, Green Banks have already supported investments of \$25.9 billion, using only \$7.9 billion of their own capital..." (Endnote 5) See "Bill Would Create D.C. Green Bank."

Connecticut established the first state green bank in the U.S., and it has achieved notable success. Using less than \$200 million in public funding, the Connecticut Green Bank has spurred over \$1 billion of total clean energy investment in Connecticut (Endnote 6). Following Montgomery County's pathbreaking effort, in March, 2017, Mayor Muriel Bowser announced plans to introduce legislation to make Washington, D.C. the first city in the U.S. to establish a Green Bank (Endnote 7). This legislation is part of Mayor Bowser's efforts to enhance the city's resilience to climate change and also to support the Paris Climate Agreement commitments. Id.

Mayor Bowser's initiative and Mr. Deyo's appointment could not come at a better time. Globally, prices for renewables are falling, while demand is through the roof. The 2017 edition of the REN21 Renewables Global Status Report (GSR) outlines a global energy transition well under way, "...with record new additions of installed renewable energy capacity, rapidly falling costs, particularly for solar PV and wind power, and the decoupling of economic growth and energy-related carbon dioxide emissions for the third year running." Global Status Report, p. 7 (Endnote 8). In addition, "...[i]nnovative and more sustainable ways of meeting our energy needs are accelerating the paradigm shift away from a world run on

fossil fuels..." Id. "...As of 2015, renewable energy provided an estimated 19.3% of global final energy consumption, and growth in capacity and production continued in 2016..." <u>Id.</u> at p. 19. Moreover, world-wide, in 2016, 9.8 million people worked in the renewable energy sector, an increase of 1.1% from 2015. Id.

Yet, the market has not yet been completely efficient in delivering homeowners or commercial building owners with financing for these projects. The financial community may not yet be versed in the intricacies of these technologies, and risk can appear to be an obstacle. Green banks can be pivotal in making connections that allow renewable and energy efficiency projects to meet growing demand. Green bank financing also promotes government efficiency. According to a White Paper by the Coalition for Green Capital, by offering financing, instead of grants, green banks reduce total public expenditure, but still drive positive market outcomes (Endnote 9). "Specifically, a public dollar put towards financing rather than grants will enable deeper energy efficiency retrofits to occur..." Id., p. 6.

These projects really matter. According to National Geographic, "[e]very ton of CO2 we emit melts 32 square feet of Artic ice, according to a 2016 study, which means the average American melts 525 square feet a year." Notably, that "[e]very energy saving building, retired gas-guzzler, and acre of preserve forest helps. But none of it will help much if the world doesn't switch to a carbon-free energy supply soon..." (Endnote 10).

Washington, DC, as the nation's capital, is an acknowledged leadership center for national policy and law. Expanding upon that role, local jurisdictions in the capital area are taking a leadership role in sustainability project financing by working to establish green banks. It will be exciting to see the beneficial local projects that they help to create.

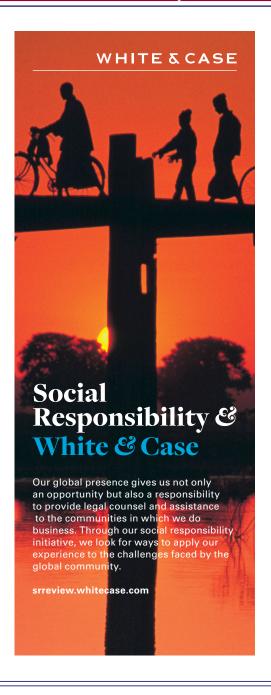
#### **Footnote**

<sup>1</sup> Washington, D.C. also has proposed green bank legislation that currently is being considered by the D.C. Council: <a href="http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B22-0257">http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B22-0257</a>.

#### **Endnotes**

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## **Features**

# WERK: Flexibility in the Workplace is the Future

By Laura Goldin Ames, Co-Chair, Government Attorneys Forum



Laura Goldin Ames

Achieving a work-life balance is a struggle for many women, especially those with small children. Between career demands, childcare responsibilities, and household tasks, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and stretched thin. Often, something must give and unfortunately, one's career may take the backburner. In some instances, women drop out of the workforce indefinitely to fulfill family

needs. The traditional 9 to 5 (or in reality, much later) work schedule is not cutting it for many working mothers in most professional environments.

What if women can have it all and continue to succeed personally *and* professionally? That is where the job search platform, **Werk**, enters the picture. Founders **Anna Auerbach** and **Annie Dean** are mothers to young children, who were striving to climb the corporate ladder in the consulting and legal sectors. However, both hit a roadblock in their respective fields and realized that the current structure of

the corporate world was not designed for women like them: ambitious working mothers struggling to reconcile parenting responsibilities with demanding careers. Indeed, Auerbach and Dean identified a prominent dearth in the marketplace and they set out to fill this void starting in early 2016.

What if there was a business model where workplaces not only offered flexible schedules and arrangements? What if such flexibility was built-in to the position description, or pre-negotiated for job seekers? Auerbach and Dean honed in on the idea that flexibility would serve to fuel employee success and engagement, produce happier, more productive employees, and improve corporate outputs in a way that was low-risk and low-cost. As exclaimed on the website, "Werk is the only place where flexibility and ambition coexist." The site contains job postings for a wide variety of fields and industries, including legal jobs. What is unique about the positions posted on Werk, is that all of them come with prenegotiated flexible work arrangements. Coined FlexiverseTM,

Werk's six types of flexibility include remote positions, work conducted out of the traditional office environment, positions with minimal or no travel, non-traditional working hours, adhoc schedule adjustments, and part-time work.

Each position advertised on the site includes at least one type of flexibility. When job seekers create a Werk account, they select which type(s) of flexibility fits their lives. Employers post positions that contain these exact arrangements. The result is that Werk eliminates anxiety associated with applying for high-profile positions because job seekers know any position advertised on the site will be compatible with their specific needs. In addition, the positions on Werk are not just placeholders to keep women in the workforce: they are challenging positions that offer the potential for upward mobility. Now instead of opting out of the workforce, women can opt in to flexibility and to meaningful Werk. For more information, visit <a href="mailto:saywerk.com">saywerk.com</a>.

# Black Female Representation in the Law: Much Progress, But the Fight Continues

By Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke



Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke

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& Policy (ACS) and Congresswoman
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the original publication: acslaw.org/
acsblog/black-female-representationin-the-law-much-progress-but-thefight-continues-0

Congresswoman Clarke represents New York's Ninth Congressional District in Congress. She has served in Congress since 2007 and is co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Black Women & Girls.

September 14 marks what would have been Constance Baker Motley's 96th birthday. In 1966, Judge Motley became the first Black woman to serve as a federal judge. Yet, fifty years later, Black women are still heavily underrepresented at nearly all levels of the legal profession. While Black women are also underrepresented in the arts, sciences, media, and numerous other industries, our underrepresentation in the legal profession is particularly troubling, given its unique role in protecting the rights of those who lack the knowledge or resources to protect their constitutional rights.

The history of Black female attorneys in the United States really begins with Charlotte E. Ray. On March 2, 1872 Ms. Ray became the first Black woman to serve as a licensed attorney in the United States. Charlotte E. Ray was born in my home

state of New York in 1850 at a time when slavery still existed and even freed Black women were taught that the measure of their success was their ability to care for the men in their lives. Not willing to accept this narrow definition of purpose, Ms. Ray hid her gender in order to gain acceptance to Howard Law School. She worked twice as hard as her male colleagues to graduate Phi Beta Kappa and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar that same year. This made Ms. Ray only the third licensed female attorney in the United States. Ms. Ray was also a dedicated social advocate and served as a delegate to the 1876 Conference of the National Woman's Suffrage Association.

While Charlotte E. Ray laid the foundation for Black women to serve as attorneys in the United States, it took nearly fifty years until a Black woman gained admission to the highest bar in the nation. This occurred on January 29, 1926, with the admission of Violette Neatley Anderson to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. Ms. Anderson had served as a court reporter for fifteen years before attending the Chicago Law School. Like Charlotte E. Ray, Violette Neatley Anderson was deeply involved in her community and recognized the need for women of color to help each other overcome the unique barriers that stood in their way.

Yet, the tide of progress remained slow for Black women in the law. It took until January 25, 1966, until Constance Baker Motley was nominated to serve as a federal judge on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. By this point, Ms. Motley was already a towering figure in the law.

Born in New York to parents from the Caribbean, Ms. Motley joined the NAACP's Legal Defense and Education Fund soon after graduating from Columbia Law School. At LDF, Ms. Motley helped draft the original complaint in Brown v. Board of Education and became the first Black woman to argue a case before the Supreme Court, ultimately winning nine of the ten cases that she argued before that body.

More than fifty years after Constance Baker Motley became the first Black woman to serve as a federal judge, Black women are still grossly underrepresented at nearly all levels of the legal profession. Despite comprising more than 6.6 percent of the US population, Black women accounted for less than 5 percent of full time law school graduates for the 2014 and 2015 academic years. A January 2017 NALP report similarly found that Black women only accounted for 2.32 percent of associates at major law firms and a paltry 0.64 percent of partners.



Constance Baker Motley

Of the 578 active district court judges in the United States, 6.4 percent (37) are Black women. While this is roughly proportionate to our share of the U.S. population, 65 percent (24) of these district court judges were nominated within the past few years by President Obama. Unsurprisingly, Black female representation drops

precipitously on the circuit courts. Of the 160 active circuit court judges, only 4.4 percent (7) are Black women. Two of those judges, representing 29 percent of the total figure, were appointed by President Obama. We need not even proceed to the highest court in the land, since it is well known that no Black woman has ever served on the Supreme Court.

Some people may wonder why the demographic composition of the judiciary matters, given the fact that judges are supposed to apply the law equally. This is indeed a fair

question. After all, it would lead to absurd results if we required a judge's racial, gender, or ethnic characteristics to match those of every party before the courts. However, that is not what I am advocating. While the same law applies to all people, the truth is that we need judges who know how to properly weigh the facts that are before them in order to create key legal concepts and distinctions that all judges can then use to fairly apply the law.

As ACS President Caroline Fredrickson demonstrates in her book "Under the Bus: How Working Women Are Being Run Over," Congress, the courts, and other government officials have routinely excluded women of color from legal protections, even as they crafted more progressive laws for the rest of the country. Women of color face unique intersectional challenges with regard to reproductive rights, healthcare disparities, sexual harassment, and numerous other issues. While many of these issues are best addressed by Congress, the fact is that Black women need a seat at the bench to argue for how to weigh the facts, apply the law, and create legal distinctions that equal justice under law. By increasing Black female representation in the judiciary, we can help guarantee that our law encapsulates the nuances of our lived reality. It is therefore imperative that increasing Black female representation on the judiciary remains a priority for the progressive legal movement going forward, which is why I am so proud that ACS has named an award after Judge Motley as an enduring legacy to her accomplishments and vision.

Congresswoman Clarke represents New York's Ninth Congressional District in Congress. She has served in Congress since 2007 and is co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Black Women & Girls.



## President's Column

By Kerri M. Castellini, WBA President; Partner, Price Benowitz LLP



Kerri M. Castellini

Fall has arrived! The WBA is squarely in the heart of our programming year. For many of us, the cooler weather means pumpkins, cozy fires, and Halloween costumes. It also means that the summer slump is officially over, and school, activities, and post-vacation clients are all demanding our time and attention. As we slide into the holiday season, it is easy to get overwhelmed.

The busier we get, the easier it is to move from being proactive to being reactive. Reading a book helps to stay focused and quiet your mind. I found inspiration in Sheryl Sandberg's Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy. I also have on my reading list, Lauren Stiller Rikleen's newest book, Ladder Down: Success Strategies For Lawyers From Women Who Will Be Hiring, Reviewing And Promoting You. Ms. Rikleen was recognized by the ABA Commission on Women this year as a Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award recipient. Also on my reading bucket list is the ABA's Her Story: Lessons in Success From Lawyers Who Live It.

Another Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award recipient was the WBA's very own nominee, Nancy Duff Campbell.

Ms. Campbell was a founder of the National Women's Law Center, and WBA's 2010 Woman Lawyer of the Year. Her bio is inspiration alone, and can be found at <a href="mailto:nwlc.org/staff/nancy-duff-campbell-co-president">nwlc.org/staff/nancy-duff-campbell-co-president</a>. For further inspiration, please check out her remarks found at <a href="mailto:americanbar.org/groups/women/initiatives">americanbar.org/groups/women/initiatives</a> <a href="mailto:awards/margaret\_brent\_awards/pasthonorees.html">awards/margaret\_brent\_awards/pasthonorees.html</a>.

If you are looking for inspiration during your commute, check out board member Michelle Kallen's, podcast, How to Balance the Needs of Family, Work, Clients, and Children Without Losing Your Mind, available at <a href="https://www.spigglelaw.com/employment-blog/podcast-balance-needs-family-work-clients-children-without-losing-mind">work-clients-children-without-losing-mind</a>.

During our Stars of the Bar celebration (for a recap of the event, see page 1), we heard that mentorship is key to women lawyer's success from both the Star of the Bar honoree Cristina Carvalho and Mussey-Gillet Shining Star Award receipient Kandis Gibson. My favorite source of inspiration is all of you! Our organization has almost 1,000 motivational women with career successes, challenges, and stories to share. Use the member directory in the Members Only section of our website to meet someone new. Ask them to coffee or lunch, and learn their story.

However you stay inspired this fall, I hope that you keep in mind the WBA's full slate of excellent programming. I hope to see you at an upcoming event. When we see each other, please share with me how you stay motivated!

Kerri

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## **WBA Foundation News**

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## WBA Foundation President's Letter

By Monica G. Parham, WBAF President

As we move into the heart of fall—and into the final quarter of 2017—it is a great time to refocus on our community generally, and our individual and collective roles in addressing unmet needs within that community, in particular. The WBA Foundation's mission is to meet the unmet legal and related needs of women and girls in our community, and we invite you to join us as we recognize and provide grants—funded through your generous contributions—to organizations dedicated to serving our vulnerable and atrisk neighbors.

Over the past several months, we've had several occasions to meet many of you and to highlight our grantees. At May 2017's Women's Bar Association/WBA Foundation Annual Dinner—and on the occasion of the WBA's historic Centennial—we unveiled our 2016-2017 grantee video. I encourage you to take a look and hear our grantees, in their own words, discuss their missions, the communities they serve, and how the Foundation's grant funds make an impact. You can video the video on our web page at wbadcfoundation.org.

In September, the Foundation proudly released its Annual Report, which provides additional, in-depth information about the Foundation, its operations, and the critical work and needs of its grantees. You may read our Annual Report on wbadcfoundation. org. Later in September, the WBAF Board of Directors was pleased to again have an information table at the WBA's kick-off Stars of the Bar event. We enjoyed meeting many of you, and having the opportunity to discuss in person the Foundation and our work in the community. We hope that the messages from the Annual Dinner, the moving video of the WBAF's 2016-2017 grantees, the Foundation's comprehensive Annual Report, and the 2017 Stars of the Bar information session have inspired or will inspire you to action.

On October 26, we held our 15th Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction, graciously hosted by Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. The Wine Tasting is traditionally



Monica G. Parham

one of our signature events and key fundraisers for the year, with proceeds from the event benefitting Foundation initiatives including the WBAF's Founders Fellowship, which provides funds to an area law school to support a student's work with a local legal services provider on projects benefitting underserved women and girls. The Fellowship rotates among the DC-based law schools. The 2018 Founder's Fellowship will be awarded to The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law. If you were unable to attend the event, we still encourage your contributions and support! We'll feature photos from the event in the next Raising the Bar.

You can read about the experiences of our 2017 Founders Fellow, Melissa McClure, a student at Georgetown Law, on the next page. Ms. McClure interned at The Legal Aid Society of DC this past summer.

As you get back into your fall routines and as we move towards the end of the year, please consider making a Fall contribution to the WBAF. We will be conducting a year-end appeal and would greatly appreciate your support.

Monica

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# WBA Foundation Donors

Many thanks to our supporters! The following donors made a gift to the WBA Foundation between August 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017. 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 wbadcfoundation.org.

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# Founder's Fellow: Personal Reflections on a Summer at The Legal Aid Society of DC



Melissa McClure

The Women's
Bar Association
Foundation Founders
Fellowship, established
in 2006 and awarded
annually, supports area
law students to work
with local legal services
providers on projects
to benefit women and

girls in our community. The 2017 fellowship was given to Georgetown Law, which selected Melissa McClure, J.D. Candidate, 2018, as the recipient. Below is Ms. McClure's essay about her experience as a Founders Fellow in summer 2017.

My experiences as a summer intern at The Legal Aid Society of DC reaffirmed my passion for assisting survivors of gender violence. I came to law school so that I could represent women and girls experiencing domestic and sexual violence. Thus, I was thrilled to devote my summer to assisting survivors as a full-time legal intern in the Domestic Violence/Family Law Unit at the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia. The Legal Aid Society assists people who are up to 200% above the federal poverty line in issues relating to family law, public benefits, housing, and consumer protection.

I focused on assisting survivors of gender violence by completing a number of projects. My primary task was preparing for civil protection order hearings by interviewing clients and any witnesses, writing opening and closing statements, writing direct and cross examinations, and gathering and reviewing evidence. I accompanied attorneys to court two to three times a week to assist with the cases for which I prepared hearing notes. I also assisted in the preparation of a substantial trial during the summer, which involved completing these tasks with much more detail and writing a research memorandum on stalking and assault. I performed additional requested research projects, observed and took

...continued on next page ▶

# WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY LLP® women's initiative



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notes at related hearings at DC Superior Court, and attended strategy meetings.

I also did some work that was unrelated to domestic violence, but instead focused on men and women who are marginalized in our community and experience different types of trauma. For example, I also wrote a child support motion in support of a client who experienced homelessness and assisted clients in deep poverty at the Child Support Resource Center at DC Superior Court.

During this summer, I saw how intersecting traumas work together to further marginalize those most in need. Poverty traps domestic violence survivors and forces them to make unimaginable choices, such as choosing to stay in a violent home instead of becoming homeless. Many of the clients I worked with also struggled with affordable housing and homelessness, affording food for themselves and their children, and disability. Helping my clients with their civil protection or child support cases was often only the first step in a long journey to finding safety and security.

Working with domestic violence survivors poses many challenges. Abusers work in a cycle of violence, where the violence slowly escalates over time. Domestic violence involves an abuser systematically and strategically taking control and independence from a person. It can involve cutting that person off from their friends and family, or showing up at the person's work and watching them from outside. I have talked to many survivors of violence who did not realize until months or years of abuse that they were experiencing domestic violence. For these reasons, survivors often have trouble opening up to an attorney or distancing themselves from their abuser. They sometimes miss appointments or hearings or do not trust their attorney.

I also learned this summer that domestic violence not only affects survivors, but also their children. The children who witness domestic violence experience long-term mental and physical health effects. They have an increased likelihood of abusing alcohol and drugs, suffering from depression, and becoming victims of domestic violence themselves. However, I have also learned that the remedial effects of domestic violence can be decreased if someone intervenes. Thus, the role of an attorney can potentially be very important in the life of a child who witnesses abuse.

One case from this summer demonstrates the multiple facets of domestic violence. Ms. L's husband, Mr. B, started off abusing Ms. L gradually. He would bark at her and grab her arm when he was angry. Mr. B would continually apologize to Ms. L for his actions and would promise it would never happen again. Thus, Ms. L stayed with Mr. B for many years

because she depended on his income and wanted to believe the abuse would stop. However, Mr. B began abusing Ms. L in front of their children, at one point holding their two-year-old in one arm while repeatedly punching Ms. L and smashing her face into the refrigerator door with the other. At this point, Ms. L came to legal intake.

When my attorney supervisor and I met with Ms. L, she was confused and embarrassed about what had happened. My supervisor and I were patient with Ms. L as she tried to remember details about the events. Ms. L's two young children were with her at intake, so my supervisor and I took turns playing with the children. We tried to maintain some lightheartedness during the interview so that the children would not be too worried. When we helped Ms. L, I hope that we showed her kids that adults would help them and support them, and decreased their chances of experiencing damaging physical and mental health effects.

To gain Ms. L's trust and to empower her throughout the process, I and the attorney assisting Ms. L explained to her all her legal options, carefully detailing how these options would play out in court. Ms. L then chose which legal options to pursue. It was important to respect her choices, because Ms. L knew which course of action best suited her needs and priorities. By explaining the civil legal process and making assurances that I can keep, I built trust with clients like Ms. L. I arrived early to Ms. L's court hearing, as I did for every client, because I wanted her to know that I was there to support her and advocate for her. With some hard work and Ms. L's trust, the Legal Aid attorney successfully obtained a protection order for Ms. L and evicted her husband.

I am committed to devoting my career to representing survivors, because my experiences with Ms. L and others have shown me the life-changing impact that I can have in a survivor's life. I have waited years to devote my time to assisting survivors, and I was finally able to do that this summer with the support of the WBA Founders Fellowship. Without the Fellowship, I would have struggled financially and been unable to focus on my legal aid work. I often feel like it is impossible to do what I am passionate about and stay afloat financially, but that was not the case this summer thanks to the WBA Foundation. Additionally, it has been great to know that I have the support of the WBA Foundation to pursue my dreams. Representing survivors of gender violence is difficult and trying work, but I am inspired to continue such work because your organization believed in me. I am immensely grateful to the WBA Foundation. I will take the lessons that I learned from this summer and use them to help other survivors in my career.

# Member Spotlight: Kate Mueting

Compiled by Carol A. Montoya, CAE



Kate Mueting

Kate Mueting is a Partner in the Washington, DC office of Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLP. She represents employees with a wide range of employment claims, including discrimination on the basis of gender, pregnancy, race, and disability, and other civil rights claims. Kate is currently representing a class of women with gender discrimination claims against a Big Four accounting firm in *Kassman et al. v. KPMG*.

Kate joined the WBA three years ago, in the summer of 2014. Since then, she has been an active volunteer, serving first as a co-chair of the Employment Law Forum and currently as a co-chair of the Membership Committee.

The *National Law Journal* recently named Kate one of Washington, DC's 40 Rising Stars. She has also been recognized as a leading litigator by numerous publications, including the *Washington*,

DC Super Lawyers Magazine, and eBoss Watch.

Before joining Sanford Heisler Sharp, Kate was an associate at Covington & Burling, LLP. As part of Covington's Pro Bono rotation program at DC's Children's Law Center, she served as lead counsel in several trials representing clients seeking to care for neglected children. Kate clerked for the Honorable Michael J. Melloy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the Honorable Richard J. Leon on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. She also served as a Team Leader for AmeriCorps\* National Civilian Community Corps.

# Why did you join the Women's Bar Association?

I had recently been promoted to Senior Litigation Counsel at my firm, and a partner at my firm encouraged me to get more involved in the legal community. I joined the WBA to meet other women lawyers, and I also hoped to get leadership opportunities and public speaking experience. I certainly found all of those opportunities quickly!

# How did you get involved? How do you stay involved?

Fairly early in my involvement with the WBA, I coordinated and moderated a panel discussion on *Young v. UPS*, a pending Supreme Court case on pregnancy discrimination. The WBA was open to having me do this, even though I was not yet in leadership. I was a bit nervous to reach out to the plaintiff Peggy Young's lawyer about speaking, but

after I said I was calling with the WBA she agreed without hesitation.

In my first year as a WBA member, I also took advantage of the WBA's mentoring program and was paired with Elaine Fitch, a WBA Board member and Managing Partner of Kalijarvi, Chuzi, Newman & Fitch. She continues to be a fantastic mentor to me, and I've appreciated having someone outside my law firm who is supportive of my development, as well as someone already connected with the WBA to introduce me to others.

I have continued to coordinate events on labor and employment matters, and this bar year I am active in the Membership Committee. I have very much enjoyed meeting new and prospective WBA members and helping them get more involved with the WBA.

### Tell us about your mentor/hero.

In addition to my WBA mentor Elaine Fitch, I have appreciated the guidance of my constitutional law professor Bill Buss. We wrote each other daily as part of my 1L externship in DC and have continued to keep in touch. He encouraged me to pursue a career that is meaningful for me and that advances justice for others.

# What words of advice do you have for women new to the profession?

Both judges that I clerked for, Judge Michael Melloy and Judge Richard Leon, taught me the importance of building relationships. Of course it is important to do excellent work on behalf of your clients, but it is also important for lawyers to be active in their communities. Doing so has benefited my career – and made it more enjoyable.



## **WBA Member News**

# WBA Members Named Rising Stars

The *National Law Journal* named three WBA members to its list of 2017 Rising Stars. Congratulations to **Megan Brown**, **Kate Mueting**, and **Alexandra Meise**! *The National Law Journal* looks for key elements including success on the highest stages, diversity of practice groups, and law firms, and considers recommendations as well.

Click here to read more: www.law.com/nationallawjournal/almID/1202796569579/?slreturn=20170923221828

## WBA Members Named on Most Powerful Women List

Several WBA members and honorees have been named to the Washingtonian list of Washington's 100 Most Powerful Women:

Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigsby (member, 2014 Star of the Bar)

Cristina Carvalho (2017 Star of the Bar)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg (2008 Janet Reno Torchbearer Award; 1994 Woman Lawyer of the Year)

Elena Kagan (2009 Woman Lawyer of the Year)

Jamie Gorelick (1993 Woman Lawyer of the Year)

Teresa Carlson (2017 Holiday Tea featured speaker)

Tamika Tremaglio (sustaining member)

Click here to read more: washingtonian.com/2017/10/02/the-most-powerful-women-in-washington

# JNC Recommends Frost Matini for DC Superior Court Vacancy

The DC Judicial Nomination Commission has forwarded to the President the names of three lawyers for his consideration in selecting a nominee to fill the judicial vacancy on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia created by the retirement of the Honorable Gregory E. Jackson. Among them is WBA member Judge Shana Frost Matini.

Judge Matini was appointed Magistrate Judge by Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield of the DC Superior Court on January 4, 2016. Previously, Judge Matini served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where she served as lead counsel in civil cases brought against the District in both the local and federal courts, defending the District and its employees in a wide variety of cases involving alleged constitutional violations, as well as common law torts and statutory violations. Prior to her work with the Office of the Attorney General, Judge Matini worked with Judge Richard A. Levie for several years in his capacity as Special Master for the federal RICO lawsuit brought by the United States government against the tobacco industry, and served as Senior Legal Fellow for the Einstein Institute for Science, Health and the Courts. Upon graduating from the District of Columbia School of Law (now the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law), Judge Matini clerked for the Honorable Richard A. Levie of the DC Superior Court.



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# Judge Millett Speaks on Women in the Supreme Court Panel

Above the Law recently featured a quote by **Judge Patricia Millett** of the U.S. Court of Appeals - D.C. Circuit. Judge Millett, one of WBA's 2015 Stars of the Bar, was speaking at a National Archives event on Women in the Supreme Court. She shared a story about what she told her colleagues in the solicitor general's office who were worried that she would give birth before her scheduled Supreme Court oral arguments.

"[A] male attorney could go out and get hit by a bus the day of an argument. Things just happen in life," Judge Millett noted.

Eight months pregnant at the time, Judge Millett faced a security officer who wouldn't allow her into the courtroom before she proved she was arguing the case. "He couldn't imagine an eightmonth pregnant woman sitting at the counsel table," she said.

Click here for the post: <u>abovethelaw.com/2017/10/back-in-the-day-this-judge-was-considered-too-pregnant-to-argue-before-scotus/</u>

## WBAF Financial Advisor Receives Honors

**Hanane Lemlih**, Senior Vice President - Investments at Wells Fargo Advisor, has been the WBA Foundation's investment advisor since 2013. She was recently ranked #77 on Forbes' 2017 list of the top 200 women managing over \$200 Billion. Hanane was also recognized by Working Mother and SHOOK Research, as #37 among the top 200 advisors it recognized nationally for 2017.

Click here for the Forbes list: <u>forbes.com/top-women-advisors/#15b8108e51f4</u>

Click here for the Working Mother list: <u>workingmother.com/top-</u>wealth-adviser-moms-2017



# Join the WBA Today!

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

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

- Discounted event registrations, including to our tailored programming, such as the Leadership Task Force, Solo & Small Practice Forum, and 20+ Years Expertise group
- Access to monthly Business Hour programs, held via teleconference, free and members only!
- Access to the online Job Bank, which lists career opportunities within private firms, corporations, the government, and non-profits

- Access to the Raising the Bar newsletter archive
- Participation in our mentoring program
- Listing in and access to the online Member Directory
- Access to numerous leadership and networking opportunities

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

# Reinvigorating Civics Education: An Idea Whose Time Has Come (Again)?

The topic of civics education seems to ebb and flow over the years; a new research paper from Tufts University suggests it's time for a renewed focus, as young people are losing faith in democracy and Americans of all ages struggle to discern reliable information from "fake news." The paper was presented at a recent summit aimed at reinvigorating civics education for grades K-12 by investing \$100 million to reach 10 million students by 2021. NPR ED has more about this effort—and the researchers' six tips for adding civics to an already crowded curriculum.

#### **Welcome New Members**

The following persons joined the WBA in August and September 2017.

Daphne Amouna Mina Arasteh **Katie Baker Charlotte Baskin-Gerwitz Jennifer Bauer Corinne Berbaum Allison Bergstrom Katharine Campbell** Marie-Christine Carpizo **Iamie Cernek** Alison Cheperdak Paloma Cipolla Moguilevsky **Karen Cleland** Leigh Colihan

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

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## Law Firms Go ALL-IN!

WBA is recognizing law firms with 100% WBA membership among their female lawyers. We are committed to advancing the interests of women lawyers, and we applaud law firms that share this commitment and demonstrate it by encouraging WBA membership.

Thank you to **Kalijarvi**, **Chuzi**, **Newman & Fitch**, **P.C.** and **KaiserDillon PLLC** for letting us know they are All-In for Women!

If your 100% of your firm or office's female lawyers are WBA members, let us know by emailing <a href="mailto:admin@wbadc.org">admin@wbadc.org</a>.

# Can the Most Important Lawyering Skills Ever Really Be Tested?

More than two decades after the MacCrate Report, which identified 10 fundamental lawyering skills, state bars, courts, and the academy are still tussling over how to teach those skills—and how to test them. Some significant efforts have been made, but they might not be enough, according to a post at Above the Law; for example, Shannon Achimalbe writes, how can a bar exam test negotiation skills, which might actually be more important than the ability to digest and analyze a legal problem within 30 to 60 minutes? And given all the changes in recent years, would it be better to set aside the MacCrate Report and come up with something new?

Click here to read more: <u>abovethelaw.com/2017/10/what-kind-of-lawyering-skills-are-testable-on-the-bar-exam/?rf=1</u>

(From ABA Division for Bar Services, Bar Leader Weekly, Issue 84)

# Register Now for the Communications Law Forum's Holiday Tea!

Join the Communications Law Forum for a particularly special and elegant Holiday Tea in 2017, as we return to the beautifully-decorated and historic St. Regis Hotel on Tuesday, December 12.

We will first gather in the expansive and luxurious Winter Pavilion from 1:30 to 2:30 pm, for some holiday cheer with champagne punch and holiday music. We then will move to the world-renowned Astor Ballroom for our plated high tea, ending at 4:30 pm. With its abundant and delicious food and spectacular setting, this afternoon high tea promises to be a festive event. It is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your friends!

We are delighted to announce that our featured speaker this year is **Teresa Carlson**, Vice President at Amazon Web Services. Register soon and reserve your spot at this special Holiday Tea. Traditionally, this event sells out early!



Registration is available at wbadc.org/calendar day. asp?date=12/12/2017&event=1379.

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# **Upcoming Events**

Members of the WBA 20+ Years Expertise Group gathered for a happy hour at the W Hotel in September.







## Thursday, November 2, 2017

## WBA Fireside Chat Networking Series

Presented by Government Attorneys Forum

The Fireside Chat Networking Series was designed to highlight women around the country who play significant roles in the legal community. This includes women involved in law enforcement and policy-making, as well as those involved in media and education. This installment of the series features **Jessica Herrera-Flanigan**, Executive Vice President of Government and Corporate Affairs for Univision Communications Inc.

#### Thursday, November 9, 2017

### **Speed Mentoring**

Presented by Young Lawyers Committee

This event is for law students and new lawyers to network and gain practical advice from experienced practitioners in various areas of the law. The mentors come from both the public and private sector and will be offering guidance and advice for the younger generation. Visit our website for a list of mentors.

#### Wednesday, November 15, 2017

### Going Global: the China Factor

Presented by In House Counsel Forum

This program will focus on how to build successful business relationships with Chinese companies both in China and in the U.S. This program will also focus on how to provide services and products in the U.S. that appeal to Chinese companies seeking U.S. market access.

### Tuesday, December 12, 2017

#### Holiday Tea

Presented by Communications Law Forum

Our highly-regarded and widely-attended annual Holiday Tea will be held in the beautifully-decorated St. Regis Hotel. With its abundant and delicious food, this afternoon high tea promises to be an elegant and festive event. It is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with your friends! Our Honored Guest is **Teresa Carlson**, Vice President, Amazon Web Services. Register early—this event WILL SELL OUT!

### Thursday, February 8, 2018

### Eighth Annual Mentoring Supper

Presented by Communications Law Forum

Calling all young lawyers, law students, and lawyers in transition! Enjoy a catered dinner while getting career advice from experienced attorneys. Don't miss this opportunity for substantive career development discussions with some of the best mentors in the District. Visit our website for a list of mentors.

#### Thursday, March 15, 2018

#### A Women's History Luncheon

Presented by the Communications Law Forum

Firmly committed to helping advance women, Stasia Kelly is a mentor to a number of women lawyers and is on the leadership committee of the DLA Piper Leadership Alliance for Women. Stasia has been honored with many awards that underscore her contributions to the legal profession, including the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession's prestigious Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, for her many career successes and her extensive involvement in assisting other women to succeed in the field of law. Each year, Inside Counsel presents the Anastasia D. Kelly Transformative Leadership Award to a general counsel who has sustained a commitment to accelerate the ascendancy of women lawyers to senior leadership roles in the law department and beyond. The National Law Journal named Stasia to its 2014 list of "Trailblazers & Pioneers," citing her fifteen-year career as a general counsel at four leading public companies. During this Luncheon, Lorelie S. Masters, past president of WBA and a Partner at Hunton & Williams LLP, will interview this local legal luminary.

## Save the Date

Wednesday, March 13, 2018: WBA Foundation Grant Awards Ceremony

Thursday, May 18, 2018: WBA/WBAF Annual Dinner