

State State

SEPTEMBER 22 | 5-7 PM | IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL



PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Welcome and Remarks

Candace Beck, WBA President

Presentation of Stars of the Bar

Reta Jo Lewis, President and Chair of the Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States Presented by Chiara Tondi Resta, Co-Chair, WBA Young Lawyers Committee & Stars of the Bar Committee

Michele Craddock, Managing Member of Craddock Law PLC Presented by Emily Lagan, Co-Chair, WBA Young Lawyers Committee & Stars of the Bar Committee

David Jaffe, Associate Dean for Student Affairs at American University Washington College of Law Presented by Kandis Gibson, WBA President-Elect

Amy Nelson, Director of Legal Services at Whitman-Walker Health Presented by Ashley Bouchez, Co-Chair, WBA Young Lawyers Committee & Stars of the Bar Committee

WBA Foundation

Kirsten Wilkerson, WBA Foundation President

Presentation of Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award

Upnit Bhatti, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP Presented by Bridget Bailey Lipscomb, WBA Immediate Past President

Closing Remarks

Candace Beck, WBA President

Networking & Meet the Committee and Forum Co-Chairs





MISSION

The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia was founded in 1917 to maintain the honor and integrity of the profession; to promote the administration of justice; to advance and protect the interests of women lawyers; to promote their mutual improvement; and to encourage a spirit of friendship among our members.

THE WBA

- Organizes programs that provide significant opportunities for networking, educational advancement, and personal enrichment, particularly for women lawyers
- Promotes its members as leaders of the legal community and, through executive and judicial endorsements, opens the door to appointments to the federal and local bench and high-level executive positions
- Publishes a newsletter, Raising the Bar, which covers current issues and trends of interests to women lawyers, and provides a vehicle for spotlighting the accomplishments of WBA members
- Provides a powerful network that will yield lasting friendships and valuable professional contacts
- Engages in and promotes community service activities
- Supports the WBA Foundation, which leverages the generosity of lawyers and friends to support nonprofits that serve the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC metropolitan community



STARS OF THE BAR

Each year, the WBA selects star-quality honorees to recognize at this event, which also kicks off our program year. This year, in support of our 2022-2023 bar year theme, "**Choosing Courage, Leading Authentically, Being Well**," we are honoring those who have "chosen courage" against tough obstacles and vulnerability to make positive change in the legal community. Since its inception, the WBA has been advocating for women's proper place in the legal profession and has celebrated women's successes and triumphs. We are "Choosing Courage, Leading Authentically, Being Well" by, once again, honoring our trailblazers.

RETA JO LEWIS

President and Chair of the Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of the United States



Chair Lewis was selected as a Star of the Bar for her courage to fight for racial and gender equality in U.S. politics, and for the positive change her leadership and ongoing mentorship has made for women, women of color, and the legal profession at large.

On February 9, 2022, the U.S. Senate confirmed Reta Jo Lewis as EXIM's President and Chair of the Board of Directors. Ms. Lewis was sworn in by Vice President of the United States Kamala Harris on February 16, 2022. Ms. Lewis is a senior executive with over 25 years of leadership experience in international affairs, legal, public policy, business and regulatory affairs, and subnational diplomacy.

Ms. Lewis was most recently a Senior Fellow and Director of Congressional Affairs at the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). At GMF, Ms. Lewis led and oversaw initiatives, programs, and bipartisan exchanges for members of the U.S. Congress and their European counterparts, focusing on leadership development and subnational diplomacy efforts. Prior to her time at GMF, she served as the first-ever Special Representative for Global Intergovernmental Affairs under Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during the Obama-Biden Administration. As Special Representative, Ms. Lewis was the chief diplomat responsible for international efforts to build and support strategic relationships between the federal government, state and local leaders, and their foreign counterparts. In 2013, she was awarded the Secretary's Distinguished Service Award.

Ms. Lewis was the first Black woman to serve as Vice President and Counselor to the President at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. She led the Chamber's initiatives focused on fostering strategic alliances between small businesses, especially women- and minority-owned businesses, entrepreneurs, and executives. She is a Life Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and former Member of the Board of the Leadership Council for Women in National Security. Ms. Lewis received a J.D. from Emory University School of Law, an M.S.A.J. from American University, and a B.A. from the University of Georgia.

RELATED ARTICLES

A Conversation with Export-Import Bank of the United States Chair Reta Jo Lewis

https://www.forbes.com/sites/rhettbuttle/2022/04/25/a-conversation-with-exportimport-bank-of-the-unitedstates-chair-reta-jo-lewis/?sh=3a62907eeb64

Georgia Native Returns to Tout Exports, Receive Emory Honor

https://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-news/georgia-native-returns-to-tout-exports-receive-emory-honor/ W7P364L3SNFAFHXTY4HQLDZROM/



MICHELE CRADDOCK Managing Member, Craddock Law Firm



Ms. Craddock was selected as a Star of the Bar for her courage to fight for her personal gender pay equity even when given tremendous obstacles and for the positive change her leadership on these efforts has made for women attorneys and the legal profession at large.

Ms. Craddock focuses her practice on shareholder disputes, buy-outs of minority shareholders, and corporate governance. She advises clients on shareholder, member, and partnership matters; boards of directors, shareholders, members, managers, and partners of corporations, limited liability companies, and partnerships on governance issues, fiduciary duties, ownership disputes, and ownership buy-outs; and institutional

trustees regarding their fiduciary duties and management of special assets, including companies which they control, royalty interests, real property, and other business assets.

Ms. Craddock has extensive experience litigating in federal and state court in various types of complex commercial disputes, including shareholder derivative and dissolution actions, violations of ERISA, breach of contract actions, real estate disputes, royalty disputes, business fraud and conspiracy, and professional liability. Ms. Craddock was an adjunct professor at Washington and Lee University School of Law, teaching a third-year practicum course on Corporate Governance and Shareholder Derivative Litigation.

In 2016, Ms. Craddock, a former partner at the law firm LeClairRyan, filed a lawsuit in federal court against the firm for gender-based discrimination. In 2019, she won the case and was unanimously awarded back pay and compensatory damages.

Ms. Craddock received a B.S. in Biology from Virginia Commonwealth University and earned her J.D. from the University of Richmond School of Law, *cum laude*.

RELATED ARTICLES

Former LeClairRyan partner who sued for gender bias asks court to confirm \$1M arbitration award

https://www.abajournal.com/news/article/former_leclairryan_partner_who_sued_for_gender_bias_asks_court_to_confirm_1

Biglaw Partner Alleges Sexism Derailed Her Career in a New Lawsuit

https://abovethelaw.com/2016/01/biglaw-partner-alleges-sexism-derailed-her-career-in-a-new-lawsuit/



DEAN DAVID JAFFE

Associate Dean for Student Affairs, American University Washington College of Law



Dean Jaffe was selected as a Star of the Bar for his ongoing courage to support law students and the legal profession with awareness of the mental health challenges attorneys face each day, and for the positive well-being changes his leadership has made in our community and the legal profession.

Dean Jaffe is Associate Dean for Student Affairs at American University Washington College of Law. In his work on wellness issues among law students over the last two decades, he has served within the DC Bar Lawyer Assistance Program, including as its chair, and continues to serve on the American Bar Association Commission on Lawyer

Assistance Programs (CoLAP) as co-chair of the Law School Assistance Committee. Dean Jaffe co-authored "Suffering in Silence: The Survey of Law Student Well-Being and the Reluctance of Law Students to Seek Help for Substance Use and Mental Health Concerns," reporting the results of the national survey he co-piloted in 2014 (presently being updated for 2022). He was lead author for the Law School section of "The Path to Lawyer Well-Being: Practical Recommendations for Positive Change," released in August 2017. He also produced the "Getting Healthy, Staying Healthy" video that is used as a resource in Professional Responsibility classes around the country. Jaffe authored "The Key to Law Student Well-Being? We Have to Love Our Law Students" in the National Association of Law Placement Professional Development Quarterly, and co-authored "Conduct Yourselves Accordingly: Amending Bar Character and Fitness Questions to Promote Lawyer Well-Being" in The Professional Lawyer magazine of the American Bar Association Center for Professional Responsibility. Dean Jaffe has also enjoyed the opportunity to offer suggestions on podcasts.

He received a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis and his J.D. from American University Washington College of Law. Personally, Dean Jaffe practices mindfulness by being in the moment with his daughters whenever he can.

RELATED ARTICLES

The Key to Law Student Well-Being? We Have to Love Our Law Students

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3123262

The Path to Lawyer Well-Being: Practical Recommendations for Positive Change (The Report of the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being)

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3021218

Suffering in Silence: The Survey of Law Student Well-Being and the Reluctance of Law Students to Seek Help for Substance Use and Mental Health Concerns

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2839290

Helping Law Students Get the Help They Need: An Analysis of Data Regarding Law Students' Reluctance to Seek Help and Policy Recommendations for a Variety of Stakeholders

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2815513



AMY NELSON

Director of Legal Services, Whitman-Walker Health



Ms. Nelson was selected as a Star of the Bar for her ongoing courage to ensure that LGBTQ+ individuals' stories are heard and rights are protected, and the positive changes her leadership has made for citizens of our community and the legal profession.

Ms. Nelson is the Director of Legal Services at Whitman-Walker Health, the nation's oldest medical-legal partnership and a community health center responding to DC's public health challenges, including income inequality, racism, HIV stigma, and LGBTQ discrimination. WWH Legal Services works with thousands of clients every year, where one-fifth identify as trans or gender expansive and one-quarter are immigrants. Ms.

Nelson launched the monthly Name and Gender Change Clinic in 2012 which continues to reach hundreds of clients annually. Ms. Nelson serves on the May Is All About Trans organizing board, the DC Consortium of Legal Service Providers Steering Committee, the GW Lambda Law Alumni Board, and the DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking Insurance Advisory Committee. She recently completed a 4-year term on the DC Bar Board of Governors.

Ms. Nelson's work at Whitman-Walker has been recognized by the Washington Blade, the Washington Business Journal, the DC Mayor's Office of LGBTQ Affairs, TransPride, and Tagg Magazine.

Ms. Nelson received her undergraduate degree from Texas A&M University and her J.D. from the George Washington University Law School.

RELATED ARTICLES

Business of Pride: Amy Nelson

https://www.bizjournals.com/washington/news/2019/06/13/business-of-pride-amy-nelson.html

Whitman-Walker Health Turns 40

https://taggmagazine.com/whitman-walker-health-40-years/

Testimony in Support of House Bill 39, Before the Maryland House of Delegates Committee on the Judiciary; Action for Change of Name – Waiver of Publication Requirement

https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/cmte_testimony/2021/jud/1H6cMS7FxKI53peVJt6C13BG8cOANRCCw.pdf



MUSSEY-GILLETT SHINING STAR AWARD

The Women's Bar Association established the Mussey-Gillett Shining Star Award in 2007 to recognize WBA members who, through their vision and sustained and unflagging dedication to the WBA or to WBA committees and forums, have made extraordinary contributions that have advanced the mission of the association in the best tradition of leadership exemplified by the WBA's Founders, Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma Gillett. Each year, our immediate Past President selects a member who has epitomized the principles set forth by our founders. This year's awardee is Upnit Bhatti.

UPNIT BHATTI



Upnit Bhatti, is a Senior Associate at Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. A current member of the WBA Board of Directors, she serves on the Advocacy Committee and is the Board liaison to the Amicus Committee. She previously served as a co-chair of the Amicus Committee for two years and was a co-chair of the Diversity Committee.

Ms. Bhatti has made exemplary contributions to the association, representing the WBA in our partnership with Women Lawyers On Guard and the National Association of Women Lawyers to draft a *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* amicus brief for the U.S. Supreme Court. Additionally, she reviewed and prepared numerus recommendation memoranda

regarding whether the Association should sign on to amicus briefs in various U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals and state Supreme Courts. Her work continued this summer when she co-authored a brief for Students for Fair Admissions Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College consolidated with Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. University of North Carolina, which was filed on behalf of the Washington Bar Association and the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

Ms. Bhatti's input on the Amicus and Advocacy Committees provide meaningful guidance in areas that are important to the delivery of our value proposition and mission. These activities are garnering attention for the WBA's local and national impact.



THANK YOU TO OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS



Sandline

Tanenholz & Associates, PLLC discovery counsel | law firm managed review | ediscovery







THANK YOU TO OUR GOLD SPONSORS











Your Legal Advantage at WorkSM



MUSSEY-GILLET FOUNDER SPONSORS



ELLEN SPENCER MUSSEY



EMMA GILLETT

Named after our founders, Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma M. Gillett, this sponsorship level provides dedicated individual members the opportunity to support the success and financial sustainability of the WBA. For those individuals who already give so much to the WBA, the Founders Sponsorship provides a targeted giving opportunity, and a mechanism for the WBA to recognize its high contributing individuals.

THANK YOU TO OUR MUSSEY-GILLETT FOUNDERS SPONSORS

(as of September 16, 2022)

Sadina Montani Bridget Bailey Lipscomb Candace Beck Lorelie S. Masters Hon. Diane Brenneman Susan Kovarovics Ellen Jakovic Paulette E. Chapman Candace Beck

VENDOR SPONSORS

Platinum



Learn more about vendor sponsor opportunities: <u>https://wbadc.org/vendor-sponsors/</u>



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

AMARA LEGAL CENTER*

Amara Legal Center provides free legal services to individuals whose rights have been violated while involved in commercial sex, whether involvement was by coercion, necessity, choice, or otherwise, in the DC metropolitan area. Amara's attorneys are trained in providing trauma-informed legal services and are devoted to providing comprehensive support, making sure that its clients know they are not navigating their cases alone. The Amara Legal Center is in need of pro bono attorneys as well as volunteers with experience in: marketing and design, event planning, and fundraising. For more information: **www.amaralegal.org/volunteer**.

AYUDA*

Ayuda advocates for low-income immigrants through direct legal, social, and language services, training, and outreach in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Ayuda relies on pro bono support for free immigration consultation clinics, which are currently being conducted remotely due to the public health crisis. Attorneys who volunteer for Ayuda's clinics benefit from Ayuda's expert immigration mentorship and easy-to-use intake materials. No prior immigration law experience is required, and Ayuda is able to provide interpretation assistance but is especially grateful for volunteers who speak Spanish or other languages in addition to English. Through Ayuda's pro bono pipeline, pro bono attorneys are able to represent clients in immigrant matters such as T and U Visas, asylum applications, VAWA petitions, and immigration proceedings. For more information, contact Irfana Anwer, Pro Bono Managing Attorney, **Irfana.Anwer@ayuda.com**, 240-594-0605

DC KINCARE ALLIANCE*

DC KinCare Alliance supports the legal, financial, and related service needs of relative caregivers, the majority of whom are women, who step up to raise children in their extended families in times of crisis when the children's parents are not able to care for them. Pro bono attorneys co-counsel with DC KinCare Alliance to handle cases representing relative caregivers in court; assist DC KinCare attorneys to conduct relative caregiver legal support groups and provide brief legal advice to relative caregiver attendees; and work with DC KinCare attorneys on researching and writing legal memoranda or briefs related to kinship caregiving. Training and mentoring will be provided. Contact: Marla Spindel, Executive Director, at marla@dckincare.org.

DC BAR LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

New volunteers welcome! The DC Bar Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) has a strong volunteer component which allows lawyers who have faced similar problems and have overcome them to offer their guidance and assistance to LAP clients in a confidential, mentoring relationship. LAP volunteers frequently assist with outreach by speaking about their experience at LAP educational presentations. These presentations are conducted at legal employers and law schools throughout the year. Feel free to reach out with questions about how you can help the LAP achieve its mission. If you have any questions or if you would like to become a LAP volunteer, contact LAP staff at 202-347-3131 or LAP@dcbar.org.

DC VOLUNTEER LAWYERS PROJECT*

The DC Volunteer Lawyers Project addresses the critical shortage of legal assistance for low-income people in Washington, DC, especially in cases involving domestic violence. DCVLP volunteer attorneys help survivors of domestic violence achieve safety and independence by representing them in civil protection order, custody, divorce, child support, and immigration cases. Volunteer lawyers also serve as guardians ad litem, advocating for the best interests of at-risk children in high-conflict custody cases. For more information on volunteer opportunities with DCVLP contact Sara Jamison, Director of Volunteer Engagement and Strategic Partnerships (siamison@dcvlp.org).



FIRST SHIFT JUSTICE PROJECT*

First Shift Justice Project empowers low-income pregnant women and parents to safeguard the economic security and health of their families by asserting their workplace rights. By receiving advice and representation, working parents are able to assert their rights before they lose their positions or before their workplace stress becomes untenable, First Shift helps them safely maintain their employment, their health and their family commitments. First Shift is always happy to speak with firms who are interested in co-counseling, taking on pro bono cases, or conducting discrete legal research projects. Contact: Laura Brown at **lbrown@firstshift.org** or 202-990-2334.

MOTHERS OUTREACH NETWORK*

Mothers Outreach Network facilitates the power of Black mothers subject to systems of disempowerment, such as the family regulation and foster system, to upend a socio-economic structure that inadequately addresses their full potential for economic independence. It advances economic security for women and families through social justice education, mutual aid, grassroots mobilization, and legal advocacy, focused on disadvantaged Black women in Washington, DC. Mothers Outreach Network has volunteer opportunities through their brief advice clinics and legal information/know-your-rights sessions. These opportunities exist in both their low-income tax practice and our family defense and economic justice practice. No tax or family law experience is needed – Mothers Outreach Network will provide training. Contact Melody Webb at **volunteer@mothersoutreachnetwork.org**.

NETWORK FOR VICTIM RECOVERY OF DC*

The Network for Victim Recovery of DC empowers victims of crime to achieve survivor defined justice through a collaborative continuum of advocacy, case management, and legal services. NVRDC provides holistic case management and legal services for crime victims needing assistance regarding civil protection order representation, crime victims' rights enforcement, and Title IX/Clery representation for campus crime victims. NVRDC's Pro Bono Program offers opportunities for attorneys to represent survivors of crime in DC in three contexts: Crime Victims' Rights (CVR), Civil Protection Order (CPO) cases, and during the University-based on-campus judicial process administered under Title IX. Because NVRDC co-counsels every case with our pro bono attorneys, volunteer attorneys determine their level of involvement with the case: whether you want to represent a survivor in a CPO trial or do a single, discrete research project for a CVR issue in a case. Pro bono training for volunteer attorneys is offered on a periodic basis at local law firms. For more information, contact Jessica Laycock, Engagement & Pro Bono Coordinator, jessica@nvrdc.org.

SAFE SISTERS CIRCLE*

The Safe Sisters Circle provides free culturally-specific, trauma-informed, and legal holistic services to Black women survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. Rooted in Safe Sisters Circle is the belief that there is value in having an organization established for Black women and where the majority of service providers and leadership within the organization are also Black women. The Safe Sisters Circle is looking for young attorneys interested in gaining trial experience to assist in representing survivors in Domestic Violence Court Civil Protection Order Hearings. They are also looking to build partnerships/pro bono opportunities with local family law firms. Contact: Alana Brown at **alana.brown@safesisterscircle.org**.

WHITMAN-WALKER HEALTH LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Whitman-Walker Legal works with people living with HIV and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex communities who are facing health-harming legal needs. The legal program assists with health insurance enrollment and coverage appeals, workplace disputes, employment and healthcare discrimination, Social Security disability applications and appeals, public benefits (ADAP, Medicare, Medicaid), elder issues, medical privacy, immigration relief, powers of attorney and wills, and identity documents for trans and gender expansive clients, among other legal issues. Anyone interested in volunteering with Whitman-Walker Legal should email Lee Hicks at **Ihicks@whitman-walker.org**: include your resume, areas of interest, any relevant experience, active bar memberships, if any, and language skills. They are especially in need of Spanish-speaking volunteers.

*Indicates the organization is a WBA Foundation grantee



WBA 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Candace Beck Tanenholz & Associates, PLLC

President-Elect Kandis Gibson Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Secretary Jenny Bi

Treasurer Latosha Ellis Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Treasurer-Elect Rachel Davakis

Upnit Bhatti Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Mary Blatch StockX

Lauren Brown Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority

Anne Collier Arudia

Renée-Lauren Ellis Amazon

Sasha Hodge-Wren Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.

Jennifer Mammen Bryan Cave Leightner Paisner LLP

Cathy Pagano

April Randall Anna Ratner Jeannie Rhee Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

Bridget Richardson Blue Apron

Natalie Roisman Wilkinson Barker & Knauer, LLP

Rebecca Simon Nixon Peabody LLP

Roya Vasseghi Vasseghi Budd Law

Gail Westover Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP

Immediate Past President (ex-officio) Bridget Bailey Lipscomb



THE WBA'S ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED 2021-2022

The WBA established a new Advocacy Committee last bar year to analyze and recommend policy on responding to invitations from members and non-members to engage in advocacy matters. The WBA was ostensibly founded on advocacy: the impetus of the establishment of this organization was the refusal of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia to admit women. WBA founders, Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma Gillett, who founded the Washington College of Law in 1896 for women, also led efforts for women's right to vote and the right to DC suffrage.

During the last two bar years, the WBA was repeatedly asked to lend its voice to many advocacy initiatives that impact women. Faced with numerous unique advocacy requests, the WBA recognized the need to create standards for involvement in advocacy matters. After a comprehensive analytical review by the Governance Committee, the WBA sought direction from its members through an all-member Town Hall and a membership survey. Thereafter, an Advocacy Committee was established, and it began its work in June 2021. While it was preparing guidelines, the WBA continued to act consistent with its renewed advocacy activities and signed onto nine amicus briefs, issued four statements, and elevated its efforts by serving as co-lead on the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization amicus brief.

The Advocacy Committee currently analyzes advocacy requests to confirm that they are in line with the WBA's mission and makes recommendations to the WBA Board of Directors on advocacy engagement. It also refers programming ideas to appropriate WBA Committees and Forums and assists with the planning as needed. The work of this committee demonstrates a revitalization of the WBA's long history of advocating for women lawyers.

We encourage our members to reach out should you have advocacy requests for the Committee to consider.

MEMBERSHIP

By joining the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, you make a statement in support of advancing women in the legal profession and demonstrate your commitment to promoting the welfare of all women in the community. The WBA provides a synergy that can enhance your career on many levels.

Whether you are looking to increase your professional visibility through WBA leadership positions, to take advantage of the many personal and professional development opportunities, or simply to network with colleagues, the WBA can meet your needs. WBA memberships run on anniversary dates: your membership will need to be renewed one year from the date you joined.

Learn more at **wbadc.org/join**.

SOCIAL MEDIA



in

wbadc.org

admin@wbadc.org

wbadc

@wbadc

linkedin.com/company/ women-s-bar-association-of-the-district-of-columbia

[O]

@wbadc