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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
WESTMORELAND BAR ASSOCIATION
VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 1
FEBRUARY 2023

Forgive Us Our Debts ...

by Caitlin Bumar, Esq.

While our present American system of debt discharge is not without its faults, approaches to the concept of debt have varied wildly over the past 5,000 years of human society, and some are a bit more palatable than others.

The basic origin of our modern debt and credit system dates back to approximately 3500 BCE in ancient Mesopotamia. Sumerian bureaucrats established a fixed exchange rate between silver and barley—their staple crop. The Sumerians also provide the first known record of money being loaned at interest. Records indicate that at one point a fixed interest rate of 20% held stable for about 2,000 years. This concept of money being loaned at interest was accompanied by the first recorded debt forgiveness; each new Sumerian ruler traditionally canceled all outstanding debts and declared a general amnesty.

Ancient Hebrew society practiced a similarly forgiving debt discharge mechanism. The book of Deuteronomy was interpreted under Mosaic law to require that, every seven years, all community members' debts must be forgiven. These years were called "Sabbatical" years. Additionally, every fifty years a "Year of Jubilee" occurred, wherein foreigners' debts

and debt slaves were required to be freed as well.

The ancient Greeks and Romans took a harsher view on the issue of debt. In ancient Athens, it was common to use real property as security for a debt. If a debtor was unable to pay, the creditor obtained possession of land, no matter how small the outstanding balance. These debtors were known as *hektēmoroi*, and they were required to work the land as serfs and remit one-sixth of their crop to the creditor to satisfy the original debt. If this became impossible, the debtor and his family could be sold into slavery.

Roman law permitted the dismemberment of a debtor and the provision of the debtor's body parts to the creditor(s) in proportion to the debt owed. The conversion rate creditors utilized is unclear. This hard line on debt continued into Italian history. Most scholars believe that the word bankruptcy itself derived from medieval Italy—a mixing of the Latin words *bancus* (table) and *ruptus* (broken). The story goes that when a

merchant or banker became insolvent, his creditors would quite literally break the table of his market stall.

The first modern bankruptcy law was passed by the English Parliament in 1705. This legally permitted creditors to discharge debt in order to encourage the debtor's cooperation in partial repayment. This process, however, could only be initiated by the creditor. Debtor's prisons

in England persisted until the early 20th century.

In colonial America, the Puritan settlers continued the tradition of debtors' prisons from England. Punishments for bankrupt debtors also



included flogging, branding, and various other forms of public shaming. After the American Revolution, the founders attempted to take a more pragmatic approach to bankruptcy. James Madison remarked in the Federalist Papers about the importance of well-regulated bankruptcy laws for effective commerce. The first of such laws was the Bankruptcy Act of 1800.

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President's Message

Focus on Overall Well-Being

by Eric E. Bononi, Esq.

As all of you are aware, we should be making sure we get exercise daily, walking at least 15 minutes a day, avoiding alcohol, eating healthy foods, and getting a good night's sleep. As part of overall well-being, we should also be focused on our spiritual health and how to grow our careers and intellectual acuity. Writing this article reminded me of a sidebar article written about former



WBA member Elizabeth Bailey many years ago. For those of you who are not as old as I am, Elizabeth Bailey was a very distinguished attorney, who achieved her well-being through yoga.



In her late 70s, Attorney Elizabeth Bailey began attending tai chi classes, which led her to the practice of yoga. "Yoga helps me with body flexibility, relaxation, and concentration," she said in the October 2004 issue of the sidebar. "When I am doing yoga poses, I am aware only of the alignment of my body and I do not worry or think about anything else." Miss Bailey passed away in 2016 at the age of 95.

I believe she practiced yoga daily. For those of us who aren't as experienced in yoga, a new business known as



Tonified Fitness has opened in our area. Tonified Fitness is run by a gentleman named Anthony Ranieri, and he is very devoted to mental and physical well-being. He believes in his yoga so strongly that he is giving half-price yoga classes in February 2023.

I encourage our members to take advantage of it. To schedule, all you have to do is go to his website, tonified.com. We all need to think about what actions, even those that become routine, should be taken to promote our physical well-being. Again, I thank you for letting me serve as your Bar President, and I wish you good physical and mental health. ■

Eric E. Bononi



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Remembering Charles Himmelreich

Charles I. Himmelreich passed away on October 8, 2022, at the age of 63. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; step-son, Martin, of Centreville, Va.; step-daughter, Megan, of Chicago; brother, Mark, and his wife, Lisa, of Bradenton, Fla.; brother, Walter, of Harrisburg; and three nieces. Memorial donations may be made in his name to the Humane Animal Rescue Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Verona, Pa., or the Cambria County Humane Society.

by Adam N. Quatrini, Esq.

Charles Himmelreich, champion for our community's most vulnerable, died October 8, 2022, at his home in Johnstown, Pa. He was 63. Charlie passed away leading the organization he dedicated his career to, Laurel Legal Services, Inc. He is survived by his devoted wife, Joyce Lawther Himmelreich.

Charlie's sharp legal mind understood cases were won or lost on details. He pored over case law to find those legal nuggets that would win the day for his clients. This dedication fueled an acknowledged propensity to overthink things. But that was Charlie. He would rather get it right than let someone down. Similarly, Charlie was always available to discuss tough cases and legal strategy with his peers. In fact, sharing his wealth of knowledge with new attorneys was, perhaps, his most fulfilling role professionally.

Charlie was as humble as he was intelligent. He eschewed praise, choosing, rather, to recognize others for his accomplishments. He personified Laurel Legal's core value

that everyone be entitled to equal access to justice, regardless of their income level, providing representation to those dealing with issues such as eviction, foreclosure, disability, and unemployment. He became particularly spirited when advocating for those

**“From the Laurel staff to the clients we served, Charlie made everyone feel important.
– Kimberly Tarbell,
Director of Operations,
Laurel Legal Services”**

seeking an Order for Protection from Abuse in domestic violence cases. Beneath it all, Charlie's motivation was to serve, not showcase.

Perhaps the most honest impression of a man is how his peers view him. In that case, Charlie was celebrated—his coworkers loved him. Charlie's big heart had room for all. When he became Executive Director of Laurel



Legal Services, he wrestled with the reality of becoming “management” and giving orders. But he quickly realized that he could use his leadership role to advocate for his employees.

“Charlie always wanted to make sure the employees, his legal family, were taken care of. It was top of mind at every board meeting,” Nicole Pardus, Laurel Legal Services board member, remembers.

Outside of law, Charlie had an affinity for antiques and a deep appreciation for animals. He and Joyce provided a safe, comfortable home to many dogs, both their own and fostered. He respected, supported, and rescued wildlife.

Charlie was a graduate of Gannon University and the University of Dayton School of Law. He was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1985 and practiced law in Pittsburgh and Harrison City prior to moving to Johnstown. ■

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the sidebar

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Forgive Us Our Debts ... *continued from page 1*

This law of limited reach applied only to merchants, lasted only until 1803 and, as with the English law nearly a century earlier, bankruptcies could only be initiated by creditors. Protections for individual debtors remained scarce, especially for those of limited means.

Debtors' prisons remained a prominent feature of the American financial system into the 19th century. Conditions at New York City's New Gaol debtors' prison ranged from airy

apartments for the wealthier inmates to the dank confines of a cellar for the less fortunate. In 1810, one in ten men in New York was arrested for a debt. By the mid-1830s, however, most states had outlawed debtors' prisons; Congress banned the practice federally in 1833.

Although debtors' prisons were abolished, the problem of insolvent debtors remained. After a series of financial panics and brief flirtations with short-lived federal bankruptcy laws

in the early 19th century, Congress passed the Bankruptcy Act of 1898. This act provided for a debtor-initiated bankruptcy that was available to anyone, and it remained the governing law until the passage of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978.

The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 created our modern bankruptcy court system, and the Supreme Court promulgated the Bankruptcy Rules and Official Forms in 1982. This system has undergone a few substantive revisions, including the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, which established a means testing system for individual debtors, made student loans more difficult to discharge, and implemented mandatory debt counseling. Overall, however, the current bankruptcy regime is more lenient toward individual, private debtors than any time in American history; this is a practical necessity given that 70% of the United States economy is driven by consumer purchases, the vast majority of which are made on credit.

That is not to say that the current system doesn't have its issues. The current bankruptcy laws will no doubt continue to change over time to meet the evolving needs of the American economy and American society. In any case, I would confidently argue that our current system is an improvement over having a leg chopped off and mailed to JP Morgan Chase. ■

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FAYETTE LEGACY PARTNERS NAMED TO FORBES 2023 BEST-IN-STATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAMS LIST



Uniontown, PA – January 2023

Fayette Legacy Partners has been named to the Forbes 2023 Best-In-State Wealth Management Teams list.

"Congratulations to Financial Advisors Melody Cole, Laura Williams, Mike Tetteris and Chris Filicky for receiving this prestigious recognition, which is a testament to their commitment to offer the highest standard of success in financial relationships. Melody, Laura, Mike and Chris represent the best of our industry," said Kevin Reed, Executive Vice President and President of Private Client Group

Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Management Teams ranking was developed by SHOOK Research and is based on in-person, virtual and telephone due diligence meetings and a ranking algorithm that includes: a measure of each team's best practices, client retention, industry experience, review of compliance records, firm nominations; and quantitative criteria, including: assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion because client objectives and risk tolerances vary, and advisors rarely have audited performance reports. SHOOK's research and rankings provide opinions intended to help investors choose the right financial advisor and team, and are not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client's experience. Past performance is not an indication of future results. Neither Forbes nor SHOOK Research receive compensation in exchange for placement on the ranking.

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Judge Taddonio Elected Chief of Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

Westmoreland Proud

by Joyce Novotny-Prettiman, Esq.

WBA member Judge Gregory Taddonio has been named Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Judge Taddonio grew up in Westmoreland County and went on to attend the University of Notre Dame for his undergraduate studies. While in law school, he completed an internship in Westmoreland County with Judge Ackerman. He earned his juris doctorate at Pitt and began his legal career at a mid-sized firm in Ohio where he handled employment law cases, general civil matters, and consumer bankruptcy issues.

In 2001, he and his wife were blessed with three daughters over the course of two years. In light of these life events, which he calls “constructive triplets,” they decided to head back to Pittsburgh where they had a family support network.

With his move back to Pittsburgh came a job offer from Reed Smith in the commercial restructuring and bankruptcy practice group. While with Reed Smith, he enjoyed the challenge of working on large and complex Chapter 11 bankruptcies and large asbestos cases.

In 2013, he was appointed to the bench. His hard work resulted in his appointment as Chief Judge in September 2022. The position of chief judge carries extra duties which involve, among many other things, the responsibility of the administrative functioning of the courts, budgeting responsibilities, and conflict screening.

In reflecting on the COVID shutdown which he thinks was expertly handled by his predecessor, Judge Carlota M. Böhm, he notes that the bankruptcy courts had an advantage because they were equipped for video hearings years before the pandemic hit.

He had also established procedures for participation at hearings via telephone.

While these alternate practices do provide many advantages, he cautions attorneys to be mindful that they are still in a formal court proceeding when participating remotely and should act accordingly. Also, there are times when an in-person appearance can better serve a client as it allows for an opportunity to informally interact with opposing counsel, and it gives attorneys a better ability to read the room. However, he sees hybrid hearings as time-savers when it comes to non-evidentiary matters.

In his position, Judge Taddonio realizes that assets lose value as time passes; therefore, getting things moving is important to the litigants who come before him. His challenge is to bring the parties together to narrow the issues and get the attorneys to a place where they can see the best way

to get their clients to a plan to move forward. He explains that companies come through bankruptcy and become leaner and stronger organizations, which preserves jobs and strengthens business relationships. His tip to litigants is that you can be a zealous

advocate for your client by narrowing the issues through communications with opposing counsel so that time is not wasted.

His favorite part about sitting on the bench is that he does not have to focus on billable hours, which was not a luxury he had during the years he practiced. Thus, he can dedicate the necessary time to get to the

correct answer because he realizes that his decisions have life-long impacts on those that come before him in court.

Congratulations, Judge Taddonio, we thank you for proudly representing Westmoreland County! ■



Chief Bankruptcy Judge Gregory Taddonio

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ABSTRACTS

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Capital Campaign—It’s a Wrap!

by Joyce Novotny-Prettiman, Esq., and David DeRose, Esq.,
Capital Campaign Committee Co-Chairs

The Capital Campaign has concluded. We not only met, but exceeded our fund-raising goal of \$250,000!

The final tally of pledges totals \$281,250 with 79.5% of the pledges paid to the WBA as of January 31, 2023. We could not be more thankful for the support of so many loyal WBA members, especially considering the challenging times we have all come through over the past three years.

The members of the Capital Campaign Committee include Scott Avolio, Eric Bononi, Leo Ciaramitaro, David DeRose, Melissa Guiddy, Zach Kansler, Maureen Kroll, Adam Long,



Joyce Novotny-Prettiman

Zack Mesher, Angie Mitas, Joyce Novotny-Prettiman, Nicole Pardus, Judi Petrush, John Ranker, and John Ward.

A complete list of all those who participated in the Capital Campaign is enclosed in this edition of *the sidebar*.



David DeRose

The last task of the committee is to finalize the recognition piece for approval by the WBA Board of Directors. That will soon lead to its production, installation, and eventual unveiling.

By helping alleviate the burden of the debt for our new building, funds are freed up to allow the WBA to serve its members through continuing legal education opportunities, networking events, and committee efforts—all of

which help us better serve our clients. Many thanks from the Capital Campaign Committee. ■

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When Women Had to Win the Right to Dive Into the Jury Pool

by Rebecca K. Fenoglietto, Esq.

My guess is that if we each got a few dollars every time we, as lawyers, were asked how to avoid being selected for a jury, we'd have enough to retire to one of the Florida homes our colleagues talk about.

My "favorite" is: "I'll just say I don't trust the police." To which I answer, "That's obnoxious, you jerk." Calling people jerks could be a reason why I don't have a house in Florida. But I digress.

So when most people run from jury duty, it seems weird to be asked to write about a time when some people had to fight for their right to be on a jury, not escape when duty calls.

In 1879, SCOTUS confirmed that a state could confine the selection of jurors to males. Bless their hearts. On the state level, while Utah did start to allow women to serve on juries in 1898, most states at that time believed that women had a "defect of sex," they were needed at home, they needed to be shielded from the gruesome details of criminal cases, or conversely that they'd be too sympathetic to criminal defendants and those people obviously never met any woman I'm related to, work with, or have ever met.

The Civil Rights Act of 1957 gave women the right to serve on federal juries, and SCOTUS got its act together in 1975, invalidated a

Louisiana statute and required states to call men and women to jury service on an equal basis. But between 1879 and 1975 (and beyond, if we're being honest) there was a lot of confusion.

The western states were more likely to seat women jurors for pragmatic reasons. There weren't enough people, so the "defective sex" got called up.

One of the first women to get the call in this country originally was from Crawford County. Eliza Stewart graduated from Washington Female Seminary in Washington, Pa., as class valedictorian, and moved to Laramie, Wyo., in 1868. There, she and five other women, along with nine men, were seated as a grand jury in 1870, and then again in 1871.

Not to fret. Wyoming changed its law and in 1871 women were excluded until 1898.¹

With the passing of the 19th Amendment in 1920, women were given the right to vote. And while many assumed this new right would automatically extend to serving on juries, that just wasn't the case, as each state came up with their own rules, then changed them, then changed them again.

One problem was that, while technically women had this right, it still wasn't quite, well, right. Often, women were required to "opt in" to be registered to be called for jury duty,

whereas men were automatically registered. And if women were asked to serve, they could opt out automatically, without giving a reason. SCOTUS ruled in 1961 that asking women to voluntarily opt in was constitutionally permissible.

By 1979, most states had pivoted to "opt out" rules, where women could get called for jury duty but still had the choice to decline because, well, woman. This changed when a scrappy attorney named Ruth Bader Ginsburg challenged those policies in front of SCOTUS that year and the policies were declared to be unconstitutional.

Here in Pennsylvania, women were given the right to dive into the jury pool in 1921, but it was not mandatory. Women had to sign up rather than be signed up. And there was that automatic opt out.

And while the populace went back and forth as to the appropriateness of women being taken from hearth and home to serve on juries, many attorneys and judges seemed to lean in quite nicely.

George Brodbeck, Clerk of the United States District Court in Philadelphia, opined in 1925, that "Women come from a different atmosphere than men and are without prejudice, they have the appearance of

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Rebecca K. Fenoglietto



¹ Viner, Kim. "Women on the Jury: Wyoming Makes History Again." WyoHistory.Org, 23 Jan. 2020.



When Women Had to Win the Right to Dive Into the Jury Pool *continued from page 7*

attention and follow the evidence more closely.”

Mrs. Anna Carson, wife of a former ABA president, Hampton Carson, served on a jury in 1923, again, in Philadelphia County. When asked how her husband felt about her staying locked overnight in a jury room with eleven other men, she responded that she didn't know how he felt but that “I've been listening to him talk every evening for over 45 years. I'm surely enjoying this evening talking and telling my views to other men.”

Miss Lillian Cruickshank was the first woman to be picked as a juror in a murder trial in Philadelphia in 1921. The local paper reported that Ms. Cruickshank was learning “that the life is not a gay one,” having no access to sleeping garments, powder, combs, cold cream, brushes, etc., because there had never been need for these items during a murder trial before. Plucky Ms. Cruickshank retired to her sleeping quarters with the court-appointed companion/guardian in an adjacent room. It is further reported that she was given a Bible and tackled sections



Commuting for jury duty in the early 20th century was difficult, so jurors were housed within a dormitory with the Courthouse as shown in this photo from the 1908 Westmoreland County Courthouse Dedication Book, reprinted in “This American Courthouse : 100 Years of Service to the People of Westmoreland County Pennsylvania,” 2007.

of Jeremiah but found them depressing (more depressing than a murder trial?), and I am not even making this up.

Not for nothing, but two months after Ms. Cruickshank's valiant service, sans combs or powder (the defendant was found guilty by the way), the Pennsylvania Legislature passed a

statute providing for a separate room for female jurors, with mirrors, toilets, and beds. The statute is silent as to cold creams or powder.² ■

² Sheridan, Elizabeth M. “Women and Jury Service.” *American Bar Association Journal*, December 1925, Vol. 11, No. 12.

The New Generation in Court Administration

Editor's note: In the November 2022 sidebar article, “The New Generation in Court Administration,” Orphans' Court Administrator Lisa Rosendale was inadvertently omitted from the list of Westmoreland County Court Administrators. Our sincerest apologies for this omission.

Lisa Rosendale Orphans' Court Administrator



Lisa Rosendale has been serving as Westmoreland County's Orphans' Court Administrator since 2018, but has ten years of experience in court administration. “I began in the court assistant pool,” she explains, “worked for Judge McCormick as a criminal minute clerk and civil clerk for Judge Marsili.

Then I moved on to the jury commissioner's office and advanced as the jury scheduling coordinator there before coming to be the Orphans' Court Administrator.”

As Orphans' Court Administrator, Lisa oversees the administration of estates, adoptions, guardianships and all other Orphans' Court matters. “My favorite thing about this position is seeing the excitement on the faces of the children being adopted as they finally see a happy ending to a bad situation in their young lives,” she says. “It's the one happy thing we do in court and I get to be a part of it.”

Lisa sees a tremendous need for pro bono assistance in adoptions, terminations, and guardianships, and she encourages bar members to use the forms on the county's website to make both her and their jobs easier. As rules change, forms change and using the county's forms ensures you are using the correct form. ■

Spotlight on Jim Silvis

Q WHAT JOBS HAVE YOU HELD PRIOR TO BEING AN ATTORNEY?

A Grocery store clerk and playground leader but the coolest job I ever had prior to returning to Greensburg was being a Navy JAG Officer from 1965 through 1968. There is nothing like wearing a white dress uniform with a ceremonial sword and driving to the base in a

new gold GTO convertible and, when the girls from town in the Officer's Club asked what JAG meant, we explained it stood for Jungle Amphibious Guerrillas.

Q WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU AS AN ATTORNEY?

A I have had very few funny things happen as an attorney, but every day I had fun while having lunch at La Vita's with lawyers and judges who were bright and witty.

Q WHAT IS THE QUALITY YOU MOST LIKE IN AN ATTORNEY?

A Civility and reasonableness and the ability to solve a problem fairly for both sides.

Q WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE JOURNEY?

A Traveling to any athletic field or gymnasium to watch my children, and now grandchildren, compete in various athletic events.

Q WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST REGRET?

A I have no regrets and would not change a thing in my life. To dwell on regrets at age 82 is not good for you mentally.

Q WHO ARE YOUR HEROES IN REAL LIFE?

A Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the Declaration of Independence; George Washington, who enforced it; Abraham Lincoln, who preserved the Union; and Harry Truman, an everyman who always did the right thing.

Q WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO ATTORNEYS NEW TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW?

A Work hard and invest your money, give to your church or charities, and on hot Friday afternoons in the summer, stay at the office until 5:00 p.m. If you leave early, the staff will resent it. Availability is as important as ability and affability. Never take a landlord/tenant case.

Q WHAT IS THE BEST ADVICE YOU EVER GOT?

A Invest in the stock market and over time you will be able to send your children to good schools without debt.



Q WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?

A Marrying Mary Louise and together raising three children with a strong work ethic, compassion for the less fortunate, and strong religious faith.

Q WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU HAPPIEST?

A Now. I have achieved every goal I have set for myself and enjoy the practice of law with little stress, and enjoy my family. If you are not happy at my age I can't imagine when you will be happy.

Q WHAT IS YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION?

A A rifle made by my great, great, great-grandfather, Jacob Silvis, who was a well-known gunsmith and a tin sign reading "JR Silvis, Attorney at Law," which hung in front of my great-grandfather's law office from 1885 til 1940.



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Look Up! The Wonderful Murals Have Something to Say



Few professions or businesses are conducted in such a splendid environment as that offered by the Westmoreland County Courthouse. Visitors and jurors, after taking in the magnificent marble hallways, enter our courtrooms and what they see instantly conveys the message that matters of importance are about to take place here. You, of course, being lawyers know that, but if you look up you will be reminded of some of the great philosophical truths on which the law is based, which are depicted in the murals of the French artist Maurice Ingres.

In this issue of *the sidebar* our focus will be on six of his murals in courtrooms 3 and 5. The themes of Law, Wisdom, and Protection are to be found in courtroom 3, while the three murals in courtroom 5 concern Justice, Mercy, and Moderation.

Law The central figure in Law is a woman, as most of Ingres' figures are, for in the classical tradition, females are viewed as symbols of social virtue and moral development. In order for law to be preserved and remembered it is put into writing, and so we see her with a feather pen in hand, alert, without a blindfold as Justice is usually depicted, ready to write in a large book supported by an obliging cherub.

Wisdom Wisdom depicts an old man with a book behind his back, contemplating a globe of the world, suggesting that wisdom is a byproduct of one's experiences in life.

Protection Finally, Protection is embodied in a mother crouching behind a shield holding her infant child in one arm and looking around for possible danger.

Justice Justice appears with her well-known sword and scales ready to weigh the evidence, and if necessary, to inflict punishment. She is blindfolded to ensure impartiality. Her pose, however, is different, for she is not standing, but in a seated, reclining position which speaks of patience, a lack of urgency, and deliberation.

Mercy Mercy shows us a young woman with her left hand resting on a book of law while the right hand is stretched out gently resting on the head of a young man hunched over in shame—a demonstration of leniency.

Moderation The principal figure in Moderation is a young man. Cradled in his left arm is a bundle of rods and an axe, the Roman symbol of authority, who restrains on a short leash an aggressive dog representing humanity's baser instinct for revenge.

If you think about it, some of these murals might easily fit into arguments directed to a jury.

These excellent photographs were taken by Mark Sorice, who also contributed a number of similar photos to the "This American Courthouse" book published for the courthouse centennial in 2007. ■

Maurice Ingres

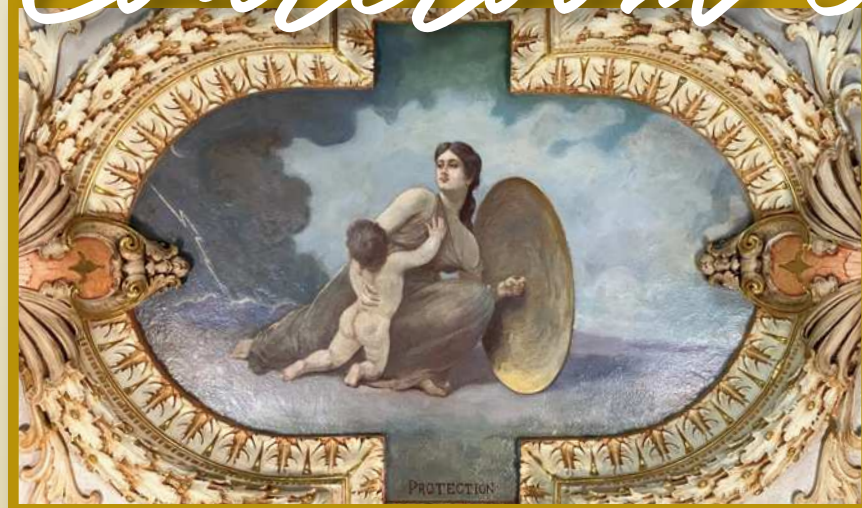
Born in 1855, Maurice Ingres was a French artist primarily known for portraits and landscapes. He studied in Paris and exhibited in the Paris Salon from 1880–1885. Arriving in New York City circa 1886, he was living in Pittsburgh in the early 1900s when he was commissioned to paint 15 wall and ceiling murals in the new courthouse in Greensburg. Ingres also painted numerous portraits of judges and other founding fathers of the county which appear in friezes surrounded by decorative plaster laurel wreaths on several courtroom walls.



Courtroom 5



Courtroom 3



Spotlight on Jim Silvis *continued from page 9*

Q WHAT IS IT THAT YOU MOST DISLIKE?

A Technology and social media. I walk past people staring at their phones and they appear to be unable to look me in the eye, smile, or speak. Personal interactions are rare today. My wife always told me to smile and say hello; it may be the only kindness that's happened to the recipient that day.

Q WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE?

A Everyone who knows me knows that I am not a spender but maybe I'll buy an expensive pair of running shoes.

Q WHAT TALENT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE?

A I wish I had musical ability or at least rhythm.

Q WHAT DO YOU VALUE MOST IN YOUR FRIENDS?

A Integrity and a sense of humor.

Q WHAT OTHER CAREER WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEMPT?

A An investment banker or a cowboy.

Q WHAT IS YOUR MOTTO?

A *Ora et labora* from the rule of St. Benedict, which means pray and work and God will take care of everything. ■

New Member Sketches



Samuel Beaver has been admitted as a participating member of the WBA. He earned both a bachelor's degree in political science and philosophy and his juris doctor degree from Duquesne University. Samuel is an Assistant District Attorney in Westmoreland County.

Adam Coury was admitted as a participating member of the WBA. Adam studied computer science at DePaul University and received his juris doctor degree from the Duquesne University School of Law. He is an associate attorney with his father, WBA member Samuel R. Coury, in Arnold.



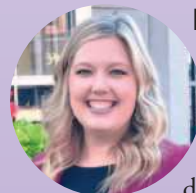
Cassidy Hatten has been admitted as a participating member of the WBA. Cassidy earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she studied criminology and pre-law. She earned her J.D. from Penn State Law and is an Assistant District Attorney in Westmoreland County.



Corey Leon has been admitted as an associate member of the WBA. He earned a bachelor's degree in criminal law from the University of Pittsburgh and his J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law. A licensed real estate agent, Corey is an associate with Stoner Law Offices LLC in Pittsburgh and maintains an office in New Kensington.



Keegan E. Miller was admitted as a participating member of the WBA. Keegan studied philosophy, law, and politics at St. Bonaventure University and received her juris doctor degree from Duquesne University School of Law. Keegan is an associate with Bononi & Company, P.C., in Greensburg. ■



Join us at the Presentation of New Members on March 29 at 3 p.m. at the Westmoreland County Courthouse.

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To-Wit: Depo Agonistes

by S. Sponte, Esq.

Sitting through six horrendous hours of my client's deposition was hard enough, but when opposing counsel asked my client for the third time what his mother's maiden name was, it was more than I could bear. Unleashing both my skill as a trained-to-kill ninja warrior and the self-righteous wrath of a courageous, crusading plaintiff's personal injury attorney, I leaped across the table, grabbed him by his oh-so-corpulent throat and began squeezing until his eyes started to bug out of his head. I chortled with glee as he staggered backward, hitting the far wall with a satisfying thud, then slumping to the floor in a stupor. Finally, mercifully, he was now silent, provided you don't count the gasping noises he made as he lay there writhing on the floor.

"How do you spell aarrch?" the court reporter asked. It was the first

intelligent question I had heard in hours.

It was the most wonderful and satisfying fantasy I had been able to conjure up since the deposition had begun all those eons ago. That the whole thing was only a justified figment of my imagination diminished its pleasure not so much as one teensy iota.

How do you spell 'aarrch'? the court reporter asked. It was the first intelligent question I had heard in hours.

I know what you are thinking: How could anyone concoct such vicious thoughts, particularly against a colleague? Well, first off, you can't tell me with a straight face that you never once had the urge to do the same thing, and second, he wasn't a

colleague; he was an insurance defense counsel.

I don't hate insurance defense counsel, at least not all of them.

It's more that I detest being trapped in a room, hour after hour, occasionally day after day, while my client is deposed by someone whose intellect and demeanor are decidedly subpar and who is bound and determined to ask every preposterous question that his or her bill-by-the-hour state of mind can conjure up.

There are only so many validly probative questions that can be put to any witness under any circumstances. Hiyam A. Puppick, the renowned author of "Deposition Queries for Dummies and the Dummies Who Ask Them," identified 613 such questions. By the fourth or fifth year of my

continued on page 14




G

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Daniel Joseph

To-Wit: Depo Agonistes *continued from page 13*

practicing, I'd heard every one of them, sometimes all of them in the same deposition. I have no problem with any question that has some probative value, but when the question proffered has no relevance at all, I do tend to struggle with my composure. Asking "When did you stop beating your wife?" has precious little probative value in a claim for adverse possession, but I can assure you that kid will never ask it again.

So, what does one do amidst such a deposition to keep one's demeanor from becoming a misdemeanor? Having participated in hundreds of depositions, I have developed a couple of techniques that have enabled me to do just that. I want to share them with you, in part for the betterment of the profession and in part as protection against the day when I might be taking the deposition of a litigant represented by counsel even less tolerant than I am.

THE MIGHTIER PEN — In moments of pending cataclysm, penetrating one's palm with the tip of a pen can be a palliative wounding. Do make certain to use only a ballpoint pen; the nib of a fountain pen is so easily clogged by human skin, and the use of an indelible marker causes a puncture discoloration that tends to linger.

THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH — You can sometimes successfully divert rage by recalling your first sexual encounter. If it was particularly satisfying, the deposition

could continue for hours until you return, and if it was a disaster, you might easily spend up to three or four hours reconstructing it into a triumph. Oooh!

And there you have it. Should you ever find yourself similarly situated, I hope you find my suggestions of use. Should that not be the case and a physical altercation ensues, oh, please let me know if anyone has captured it on video. Vicarious thrills are better than no thrills at all, and that's something I would pay good money to see. ■

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Until we secure another vendor, visit pacle.org/courses to see a list of distance learning courses that are offered in Pennsylvania.

Westmoreland Revisited

The Message of the Hanna's Town Resolves

Ready to fight, and may God save the King

by Daniel J. Ackerman

Blood had already been shed; Paul Revere had made his famous ride; shots had been fired at Lexington and Concord that

April; and British regulars were under siege by a quickly assembled Continental army in Boston.¹

Two months later on May 16, 1775, representatives of the newly formed Westmoreland

County, including Arthur St. Clair, on behalf the Penn government, gathered at Hanna's Town to discuss and publish a resolution in support of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, which King George III had declared to be in a state of rebellion.

Voicing support for their sister colony, they published the Hanna's Town Resolves, which begins with a condemnation of Britain's conduct toward that colony. While the *Resolves* express outrage and a willingness to take up arms to stop the spread of "tyranny and oppression" to other colonies, there is no call for independence from Great Britain, nor is there even the slightest criticism of the king.

Like most of those in the colonies who had come here from the British Isles, or whose ancestors did before them, these Westmorelanders viewed themselves as loyal subjects of the king and regarded him as a benefactor and protector, a parental figure to whom they had sworn an oath of allegiance. Surely the wrongs of which



Original photo by Jerrye and Roy Klotz MD via Wikimedia Commons.

Old Hanna's Town, located four miles northeast of Greensburg, consisted of 30 log homes, two taverns, and a palisaded fort. The Hanna's Town Resolves were adopted here in 1775 and have been popularly termed, too broadly, as a "little Declaration of Independence."

they complained were the work of treacherous members of the Parliament which the king would reverse once he learned of their perfidy.

As early as the second paragraph of the *Resolves* we find this unequivocal endorsement of the monarch:

Possessed with the most unshaken loyalty and fidelity to His Majesty, King George the Third, whom we acknowledge to be our lawful and rightful King, and who we wish may long be the beloved sovereign of a free and happy people throughout the whole British Empire, we declare to the world, that we do not mean by this Association to deviate from that loyalty which we hold our bounded duty to observe, but animated with the love of liberty, it is no less our duty to maintain and defend our just rights (which, with

sorrow, we have seen of late wantonly violated in many instances by a wicked Ministry and a corrupted Parliament) and transmit them to our posterity, for purpose which we do agree and associate together.

Clearly, there was no call to depart from the British Empire, no wish to terminate the monarchy, and no desire to achieve independence from Great Britain. What the Association, as the drafters of the *Resolves* called themselves, did aspire to was:

[We] do not wish or desire any innovations, but only that things may be restored to and go on in the same way as before the era of the Stamp Act ... As proof of this disposition, we will quietly submit to the laws by which we have been

¹ The siege would last eleven months.

The Message of the Hanna's Town Resolves

continued from page 15

accustomed to be governed before that period ...

Short of this, the *Resolves* threaten the formation of a military body capable of responding with the force of arms. The *Resolves* were certainly not out of step with the rest of the colonies. The Second Continental Congress was meeting at the same time and none of the delegates were advocating American independence or withdrawal from the Empire.

Interestingly, Britain soon terminated most of the taxes which the colonists found odious, including the Stamp Act. In fact, it was in its economic interest to do so, for the revenue derived from taxes raised in the colonies was only a fraction of the cost incurred in collecting them from taxpayers 3,000 miles away. While the mother country possibly might have removed all the taxes, it would not



Finished in 1771 by German artist Johann Zoffany, this portrait portrays King George III at age 33, with a steady serious gaze, a ruddy healthy face, and a calm assured demeanor. This three-quarter length figure shows the king seated in a General Officer's coat with the ribbons and star of the Garter, wearing the Garter around his leg; his hat and sword resting on a nearby table.

concede its right to tax, which eventually the colonists would demand, as Britain feared an 18th century version of the domino theory where other holdings in its empire would demand the same. The main issue was not financial—it was *sovereignty*.

As shown in the *Resolves*, Americans, at least a large number of them, were quite satisfied with their sovereign in the person of George III, a fact that stood in the way of those who desired independence, who in turn, sought to denigrate the king with the public. Much of this was accomplished by the pamphleteer, Thomas Paine, in his widely read *Common Sense*, published a year after the *Resolves* in 1776, where George was portrayed as nothing less than a monster. In the same vein, Thomas Jefferson devoted at least half of the Declaration of

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Independence to an almost endless list of usurpations, tyrannies, obstructions, and oppressions committed by one person—the king. The word “Parliament” is not mentioned in the document, which suggests a direct appeal to change the minds of those who felt an allegiance to the crown.

Our judicial systems value the need to hear out arguments from both sides of a controversy, and British historian Andrew Roberts in *The Last King of America*, while not questioning the correctness of the colonies’ right to independence, presents the king in a new and more favorable light.

While George was hawkish concerning the war, for the most part he let his ministers and Parliament lead the way while he followed. On November 30, 1775, George III addressed Parliament, stating:

It gives me much concern that I am obliged ... to inform you that a most daring spirit of resistance and disobedience to the law still unhappily prevails in the province of the Massachusetts Bay, and has in diverse parts of it broke forth in fresh violence of a very criminal nature. You may depend upon my firm and steadfast resolution to withstand every attempt to weaken or impair the supreme authority of this legislature over the dominions of my Crown, the maintenance of which I consider essential to the dignity, the safety, and the welfare of the British Empire.

“This straightforward reiteration of the status quo,” Roberts writes, “was as ‘tyrannical’ as George III ever got.”

It is impossible to determine to what extent the indictment of George III by those favoring independence was successful in changing public opinion, but during the war it is traditionally estimated that about 20% of the population remained loyal to the king and either suffered ostracism, took up arms with the British, or emigrated to Canada, England or other parts of the Empire.

We are left to wonder what might the history of the world have been if the pleas set forth in the *Resolves* had been granted. Would independence eventually have been achieved by peaceful means? Would the issue of slavery have been addressed and resolved short of a civil war? Would a British Empire that included America have changed the course of the wars of the 20th century? All we can say is that those gathered at Hanna’s Town did their best to avoid a military conflict consistent with their conscience. ■

SOURCES

- Ellis, Joseph J. *The Cause: The American Revolution and its Discontents, 1775-1783*. W.W. Norton & Company, 2021.
- Roberts, Andrew. *The Last King of America: The Misunderstood Reign of George III*. Penguin Random House, 2021.
- “With Our Lives and Fortunes.” *The Hanna’s Town Resolves*, Westmoreland Historical Society, westmorelandhistory.org, 2020.



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Event registration forms will be mailed in early April, but you don’t have to wait to reserve your room at this special rate. The block of rooms will be released on Monday, May 15, 2023, and we won’t be able to guarantee that rate after that date.

underreview The King's Bench

by Daniel J. Ackerman

**Lord Mansfield:
Justice in the Age
of Reason, by
Norman S. Poser
(McGill-Queen's
University Press,
532 pages, 2015)**

Norman S. Poser's biography of an 18th century lawyer and judge is an engaging tale, for it illuminates with equal brightness both the continuity of our judicial system and abandoned practices now simply of historic interest. His subject, William Murray—upon whom the title “Lord Mansfield” would later be bestowed—was the second son of a Scottish nobleman and his wife; who, though titled, were no strangers to financial embarrassment.

In 1718, at age 13, Murray traveled alone from Scotland to London where he enrolled in the Westminster School, which, in turn, led to an Oxford scholarship, and then to the study of law at the Lincoln Inn of Court, one of three inns in London where a legal education could be

obtained. Like most lawyers, he struggled to build his practice; but soon, due to his legal talent, oratory, and pleasing personality, not to mention a favorable marriage which introduced him to London society, he prospered.

Within ten years of starting his practice he was regarded as the city's premier lawyer. Included in his clientele were several American colonies. It is of some interest that he represented the sons of William Penn—John, Thomas, and Richard—the proprietors of Pennsylvania, in a boundary line dispute with Maryland over three counties which later became the state of Delaware.

At age 36 he was awarded the title of King's Counsel (a distinction known as “taking silk” from the fact that recipients were entitled to wear a silk gown), an honor given to the most experienced and outstanding barristers which entitled them, among other things, to precedence when arguing in court. His success at the bar and later in politics was remarkable because it came in spite of the stigma that



he was a Scotsman from a Jacobite family, which, in 18th-century England, was cause for suspicion and distrust.

In 1742, Murray was elected to fill a vacant seat in Parliament, and not wishing his legal skills to go unused, he was appointed solicitor general to the Crown, serving in both positions simultaneously while still maintaining a law practice. Samuel Johnson's famous quip concerning Murray's rapid ascent in public life was “much may be made of a Scotsman, if taken young.”

The rapid ascent included ten years' service as solicitor general, followed by two years as attorney general. Then a vacancy, caused by the death of the Chief Justice of the Court of the King's Bench, provided him an opportunity to fulfill his ambition, which was to occupy the highest judicial office in the land.

He had no peers who could match his stature in the law and it was widely assumed that he would receive the appointment.

Yet when King George II offered the post to him, he indicated to the King that he would decline the appointment unless it was accompanied by a peerage in the House of Lords.

Initially put off by such impertinence, the King eventually relented, and so in 1756, William Murray, age 53, became the chief justice and also took a seat in the House of Lords, under the name by which he would thereafter be known, Lord Mansfield. Poser writes: “He would go on to serve thirty-two years as a judge and irrevocably change the English common law.”

As if service in Parliament and on the Court of the King's Bench might not be enough to fill Mansfield's workday, the King, a year later, in 1757, appointed him to his cabinet; a post he would hold for twenty years during the reigns of both the King and his grandson, George III.

Fortunately, Mr. Poser is not a fawning biographer, which makes his portrait of Lord Mansfield all the more interesting; for while he extols Mansfield's intellect and his impact upon the law, he also is quick to point out his flaws and shortcomings. Some of these reflect weak spots in his character, while others show judicial conduct which, in modern times, would be viewed as unethical or illegal, but were accepted practice in 18th-century England.

In Search of the Truth



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In spite of his prestige as chief justice, many of his colleagues in Parliament, including the popular William Pitt, regarded him with disdain, “for his lack of loyalty to any person or party.” Mansfield was so closely involved in the government that some accused him of running the country; and one London editor who was critical of his demand to serve on the bench and in Parliament simultaneously, said: “a man clothed with the robe of magistracy ought not to be a politician; a political judge was an improper and dangerous engine.”

To us, however, the most shocking and curious practice was how he made money out of his position on the bench over and above his salary. As chief justice he had about fifty offices to fill to assist him in running the court—clerks, ushers, tipstiffs, jailers, a marshal, a bag-bearer, a train bearer, a footman, a coachman, a postilion (one who rides as a guide on or near one of the horses drawing a coach),

a cook, and a butler. These positions he sold for his own enrichment, as was the custom, to the highest bidder. Poser explains that court officers were willing to buy their positions because, like the judge, they made money beyond their salary from court fees, and other opportunities which became available. Once on the bench, however, he was a transitional figure.

In July and August, the judges, accompanied by members of the bar, would take to the road to conduct trials (called “assizes”) outside of London on six circuits throughout England; so the judiciary was a demanding occupation. One newspaper account said of Mansfield’s day on the bench: “And not withstanding [Mansfield] sat above thirteen hours on the bench his spirits did not appear in the least exhausted.”

Notwithstanding a willingness to sit as an appellate judge in the House of Lords in cases on which he had been the trial judge,

he said: “It is a rule with me—an irrevocable rule, never to hear a syllable out of Court about any case that either is or is in the smallest degree likely to come before me as a judge.”

It was he who set forth the principle that a person who attempts to commit a crime is guilty of a criminal act, even if he is unsuccessful in accomplishing the crime. To his rulings we may also attribute the origins of the attorney-client and physician-patient privileges; the admissibility of the testimony of expert witnesses; the principle of unjust enrichment; the concept of a “holder in due course” of negotiable instruments; the fundamental principle of good faith and an insurable interest in contracts of insurance; the concept that one may be

held responsible for the acts of his agent; and that cases could no longer be continued by agreement of counsel, but only by leave of court. And as a supporter of religious tolerance he allowed witnesses to take the oath by affirmation, rather than by swearing to tell the truth.

We see Mansfield, not as an activist judge, but one who was, paradoxically, both an innovator and a champion of the status quo. Among his miscalculations were his support for the repressive measures of the crown leading up to the American Revolution, and his support of the laws which permitted the Royal Navy to impress seamen. But were his contributions deleted, the practice of law would be a strange and unfamiliar place. ■

LawSpeak

The mark of the educated man is not in his boast that he has built his mountain of facts and stood on the top of it, but in his admission that there may be other peaks in the same range with men on the top of them, and that, though their views of the landscape may be different from his, they are nonetheless legitimate.

E.J. Pratt, poet (1882-1964)



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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For PBI CLE courses, call 1-800-932-4637 or visit pbi.org/westmoreland-county.

FEBRUARY

- 20** Courthouse & WBA offices closed in observance of Presidents' Day
- 21** Family Law Committee, Noon
[CLE] Trial Tips In Action, 5 to 6:45 p.m., Westmoreland County Courthouse, 1.5E
- 22** [PBI CLE] PA Business Law Quirks: What You Don't Know Can Hurt Your Client, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 2S
- 23** [PBI CLE] Counseling Small Businesses 2023, 9 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., 2S/1E
- 24** [CLE] Overview of Court Administration 2023, Noon to 1 p.m., 1S
- 28** [PBI CLE] Practical Cyber Security Strategies for You and Your Firm 2023, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., 2S/1E

[CLE] Trial Tips In Action, 5 to 6:45 p.m., Westmoreland County Courthouse, 1.5E

MARCH

- 1** [PBI CLE] What's New – and Not to be Missed – in Nonprofit Law 2023, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., 2S/1E
- 6** [PBI CLE] Serving on a Non Profit Board: Basics and Ethical Responsibilities 2023, Noon to 3:20 p.m., 2S/1E
- 7** [CLE] Deanna's Law: PA's New DUI Sentencing Statute, Noon to 1:30 p.m., 1.5S
[CLE] Trial Tips In Action, 5 to 6:45 p.m., Westmoreland County Courthouse, 1.5E
- 8** Membership Committee, Noon
Real Estate Committee, Noon
Board Meeting, 4 p.m.



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OVERVIEW OF COURT ADMINISTRATION 2023

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For refund policy information, or if special arrangements are needed, contact the WBA office at 724-834-6730 or email westbar.org@westbar.org.

Deanna's Law: Pennsylvania's New DUI Sentencing Statute

Topics of Discussion:

- Increased maximum sentences,
- Mandatory consecutive sentences for repeat offenders, and
- New sentencing consequences for refusal of chemical testing.



Speaker:
Michael D. Ferguson, Esquire
Ferguson Law Associates

LIVE CLE

**Tuesday, March 7, 2023 • Noon to 1:30 pm • WBA Headquarters & Via Zoom
1.5 substantive credits • \$52.50 WBA members/\$82.50 Nonmembers**

**DEANNA'S LAW: PENNSYLVANIA'S NEW DUI SENTENCING STATUTE
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 • NOON TO 1:30 PM**

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 Nonmember - \$82.50
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 Young Lawyer Noncredit - FREE

Choose one:

- In Person
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- Enclosed is my check made payable to the
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 Bill my credit card for \$_____.

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Lunch will be provided.

To qualify for **pre-registration fees**,
return this form and your payment
to:

Westmoreland Bar Association
100 North Maple Avenue
Greensburg PA 15601-2506

by **Noon on March 6, 2023**, or
register online at westbar.org.

Walk-in fees of \$67.50 WBA
members/\$82.50 Nonmembers
will be charged for registrations
received after Noon on March 6,
2023.

Phone 724-834-6730
Fax 724-834-6855

For refund policy information,
or if special arrangements are
needed, contact the WBA office
at 724-834-6730 or email
westbar.org@westbar.org.

Gambling – The “Secret” Addiction

The Impact of Internet and Sports Betting in the Post-COVID World

This program will explore not only Gambling Disorder, but also the connection between gambling and the more well-known forms of impairment and why lawyers are at high risk to develop problems. Discussion will cover:

- The early warning signs of impairment and how they relate to gambling disorders.
- The impact of the internet and sports betting on the problem gambler.
- The free services that Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers provides to lawyers, judges, their family members and law students.
- A close look at existing barriers that prevent lawyers and judges from seeking the help they need.
- Ethical considerations unique to the lawyer who suffers from a Gambling Disorder.

**Speaker:****Brian S. Quinn, Esquire**

Education and Outreach Coordinator, Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of PA, Inc.

LIVE CLE

**Thursday, April 13, 2023 • Noon to 1 pm • WBA Headquarters & Via Zoom
1 ethics credit • \$35 WBA members/\$55 Nonmembers**

GAMBLING – THE “SECRET” ADDICTION**THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023 • NOON TO 1 PM**

Name: _____

Attorney ID #: _____

Email: _____

Seminar Fees:

- WBA Member - \$35
 Nonmember - \$55
 Noncredit - \$10
 Young Lawyer Noncredit - FREE

Choose one:

- In Person
 Via Zoom

Choose one:

- Enclosed is my check made payable to the Westmoreland Bar Association.
 Bill my credit card for \$_____.

Card #: _____

Expiration: _____ CVV: _____

Billing Address: _____

Lunch will be provided.

To qualify for **pre-registration fees**, return this form and your payment to:Westmoreland Bar Association
100 North Maple Avenue
Greensburg PA 15601-2506by **Noon on April 12, 2023**, or register online at westbar.org.**Walk-in fees** of \$45 WBA members/\$55 Nonmembers will be charged for registrations received after Noon on April 12, 2023.Phone 724-834-6730
Fax 724-834-6855For refund policy information, or if special arrangements are needed, contact the WBA office at 724-834-6730 or email westbar.org@westbar.org.

Mike Ferguson's 22nd Annual Personal Injury & Auto Law Update

Topics of Discussion:

- Review of significant case law from 2022,
- Pennsylvania's evolving UM/UIM landscape,
- Subrogation update,
- Tips for effective discovery, and
- New Kauffer's Law legislation providing access to law enforcement files in civil litigation.



Speaker:
Michael D. Ferguson, Esquire
Ferguson Law Associates

LIVE CLE

**Thursday, April 27, 2023 • Noon to 2 pm • WBA Headquarters & Via Zoom
2 substantive credits • \$70 WBA members/\$110 Nonmembers**

**MIKE FERGUSON'S 22ND ANNUAL PERSONAL INJURY & AUTO LAW UPDATE
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 • NOON TO 2 PM**

Name: _____

Attorney ID #: _____

Email: _____

Seminar Fees:

- WBA Member - \$70
- Nonmember - \$110
- Noncredit - \$10
- Young Lawyer Noncredit - FREE

Choose one:

- In Person
- Via Zoom

Choose one:

- Enclosed is my check made payable to the Westmoreland Bar Association.
- Bill my credit card for \$_____.

Card #: _____

Expiration: _____ CVV: _____

Billing Address: _____

Lunch will be provided.

To qualify for **pre-registration fees**, return this form and your payment to:

Westmoreland Bar Association
100 North Maple Avenue
Greensburg PA 15601-2506

by **Noon on April 26, 2023**, or register online at westbar.org.

Walk-in fees of \$90 WBA members/\$110 Nonmembers will be charged for registrations received after Noon on April 26, 2023.

Phone 724-834-6730
Fax 724-834-6855

For refund policy information, or if special arrangements are needed, contact the WBA office at 724-834-6730 or email westbar.org@westbar.org.



You are cordially invited to attend the
Presentation of New Members
of the Westmoreland Bar Association

Wednesday, March 29, 2023
Ceremonial Courtroom #3
Westmoreland County Courthouse
3 p.m.



*Join us as the court en banc recognizes the newest members
of the WBA at the annual New Members Ceremony.*

Attorneys eligible to participate in this presentation:

Corrine Ausec
Samuel Beaver
Carly Bellini
Adam Coury
Cassidy Hatten
Corey Leon
Keegan Miller
Steven Reddy
Ashley Sharek

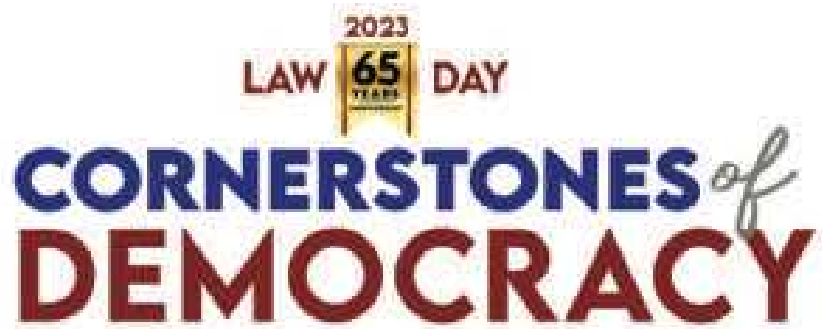


***Please join us for a complimentary reception
at the Westmoreland Bar Association
following the ceremony.***

RSVP by March 22, 2023
to the WBA office at 724-834-6730
or register online at westbar.org



WE NEED YOU FOR LAW DAY 2023!



The United States is at a critical moment in its national history. We face a country divided over many issues— voting rights, policing, public health, and climate change—to name a few. These divisions have roiled our politics. We have experienced decreasing faith in institutions and a growing distrust of one another. We have seen attacks on the justice system, the norms of our democracy, and the rule of law. These challenges are aggravated by a general lack of understanding of civics and by incivility in our public discourse. In this time of division, the legal profession must lead the way in promoting civics, civility, and collaboration— the cornerstones of our democracy—to restore confidence in our democratic institutions, in the judicial system, and to protect the rule of law.

This year the Westmoreland Bar Association, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Bar Association and American Bar Association, is focusing on the theme of **“Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility, and Collaboration.”** As in years past, we are asking Westmoreland Bar Association members to volunteer for classroom visits in Westmoreland County schools during the month of May 2023. The American Bar Association has put together some informative and engaging lesson plans, materials, and resources for K-12 classroom visits. View them online at abateacherportal.org/law-day/.

To volunteer, register online at www.westbar.org/lawday, email westbar.org@westbar.org, or return the form below via fax (724-834-6855) or mail **TODAY**.



YES! SIGN ME UP FOR LAW DAY!

To volunteer for Law Day 2023, register online at www.westbar.org/lawday, email westbar.org@westbar.org, or return this form via fax (724-834-6855) or mail to Westmoreland Bar Association, 100 N Maple Ave, Greensburg PA 15601, **TODAY**.

Name _____

Phone (preferred) _____ Email _____

School/School District Preference _____ Grade(s) Preference _____

Availability (weekdays in May) _____ Times _____

Capital Campaign

Thank you to the following individuals who have pledged a total of \$281,250 to our Capital Campaign!



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James E. Kopelman
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Company

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