

Message from the Section Chair

Dear Section Members:

At our Section's 2017 Annual Meeting CLE program I had the pleasure of participating in the presentation of our first annual Jonathan Lippman Pro Bono award to Glenn Pogust, Esq., Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP. This award was the idea of Fern Schair, the Chair of our Pro Bono Committee, and is intended to recognize outstanding pro bono work performed by a member of our Section, and to promote the goal of increasing access to justice.



We were honored to have Judge Lippman present the award to Mr. Pogust, and also to have our NYSBA President, Claire P. Gutekunst, participate in the award ceremony. Photos taken during the proceedings are included in this issue. Please keep in mind that this is an annual award and consider nominating a candidate for 2018. Details of the nomination process will be forthcoming.

Congratulations to another of our Section members—indeed, the first Chair of our Section—Justin L. Vigdor, who also was recently honored for his work in promoting access to justice. In declaring Justin its 2017 Celebration of Leadership Honoree, the Empire Justice Center highlighted Justin's role as Chair of the Partnership for Equal Justice Campaign. Empire Justice noted that Justin's leadership ensured that low-income families in Rochester will have improved access to justice by raising funds needed to co-locate four civil legal services providers in one centralized building. The resultant Telesca Center for Justice, and what it has accomplished, has been recognized as a national model for the delivery of civil legal services.

In future issues we would like to include a column reporting significant events, honors, etc., in our Section

members' lives. The deadline for this information for our next issue is October 1, 2017. Also, we are looking for a co-editor of *The Senior Lawyer*. If you would like to submit information for inclusion in the next issue, or are interested in the co-editor position, please contact me at cabb1@op-online.net.

The CLE aspect of our 2017 Annual Meeting program was *Planning Ahead for Your Senior Life and Your Practice*. The response to this program was so favorable that plans are under way to present it live in Westchester County and also as a webcast. Suggested topics for future programs, and/or speakers, are always welcome.

In this issue we are continuing to highlight portions of the NYSBA *Planning Ahead Guide: How to Establish an Advance Exit Plan to Protect Your Clients' Interests in the Event of Your Disability, Retirement or Death*. This is an invaluable reference for all attorneys, regardless of age or type of practice, and the full *Guide* can be accessed at www.nysba.org/PlanningAhead2016. In addition, recognizing the diverse nature of our Section's membership, topics addressed in this issue include employment pitfalls, cybersecurity, trusts for pets, powers of attorney, mediation, and the effective use of social media in your law firm. The more articles we have from our Section members, the more relevant *The Senior Lawyer* will be for us all, so consider submitting an article for our next issue (October 1st deadline).

This is my last Chair's Message. The new Chair as of June 1, 2017 is C. Bruce Lawrence (cblawrence@boylan-code.com). Bruce has been very active in our Section as Co-Chair of our Technology Committee and Secretary, and I know that he will do a great job as our Chair.

In closing, many thanks to the members of our Executive Committee, Section members, and NYSBA staff for guidance and assistance over the past three-and-a-half years.

Carole A. Burns

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