

# Calendar of Events

## May 2006

**15** Widener University School of Law Spring Alumni and Friends Golf Outing, Radnor Valley Country Club, Villanova, PA

**18** E. John Wherry Jr. Lecture in Trial Advocacy, Harrisburg Campus

Widener Law Alumni Reception, New Jersey State Bar Association Annual Meeting  
Bally's, Atlantic City, NJ

**20** Commencement, Wilmington Campus

**21** Commencement, Harrisburg Campus

**23** E. John Wherry Jr. Lecture in Trial Advocacy, Wilmington Campus

## June 2006

**6** "An Evening with Thomas Jefferson," Hagley Museum, Wilmington, DE

**7** Widener Law Alumni Reception, Pennsylvania Bar Association Annual Meeting, Hershey, PA

## October 2006

**11** Raynes McCarty Distinguished Lecture in Health Law, Wilmington Campus

**14** Bridge the Gap Program, Wilmington Campus (CLE credit offered)

**20** Francis G. Pileggi Distinguished Lecture in Law Series, Wilmington Campus



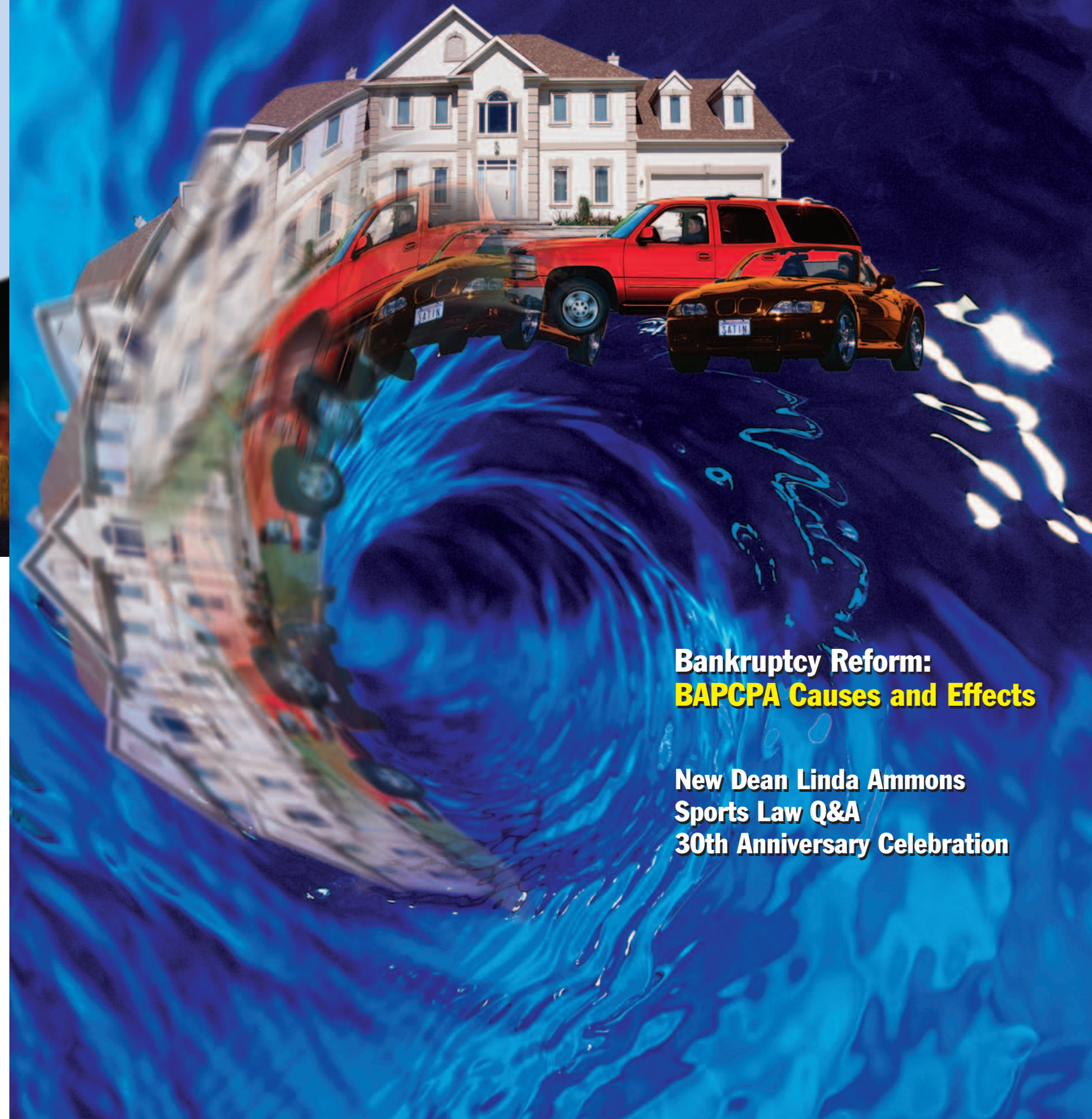
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# Widener University SCHOOL OF LAW

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS • Volume 13 • Number 1 • Spring 2006



**Bankruptcy Reform:  
BAPCPA Causes and Effects**

**New Dean Linda Ammons  
Sports Law Q&A  
30th Anniversary Celebration**

# Message from the Dean



Widener University School of Law begins a new era in July, when Linda L. Ammons becomes associate provost and dean of the school of law. An experienced law school administrator, and a path-breaking scholar and policymaker in defense of battered women, Dean Ammons is profiled in this issue.

Our transition is off to a great start. I know our law school will be in wise and capable hands when Dean Ammons takes the helm. Many thanks to the Dean Search Committee co-chaired by Professor Larry Hamermesh and school of law overseer, alumnus, and university trustee, Eugene McGurk '78.

This has been a busy year administratively, including not only the successful conclusion of the dean search, but also a significant strategic planning initiative, and an ABA/AALS re-accreditation site visit. (The inspection team raved about the quality of the teaching exhibited by our faculty. They were also impressed by the high morale of our students and their pride in the law school.)

It has also been a busy year in terms of symposia. Harrisburg's *Widener Law Journal* gathered experts from across the country to explore the controversial new bankruptcy statute. Participating Widener faculty included Professor Juliet Moringiello, a stalwart of our business law faculty who is well known in ABA circles and the American Law Institute; and Professor Nathaniel C. Nichols, who teaches students about bankruptcy law both in the classroom and as director of Widener's Bankruptcy Clinic on our Delaware Campus. Additional bankruptcy expertise is represented both in this issue and on our adjunct faculty by John Wetzel '75, who also serves on the law school's Board of Overseers.

In April, Delaware's *Widener Law Review* brought to the Wilmington campus academics, diplomats, and policymakers from five continents to discuss the prospects for a more democratic global system. Professor Andrew Strauss, an expert on public international law and an important leader of the movement for a democratically elected global parliament, was one of the principal organizers.

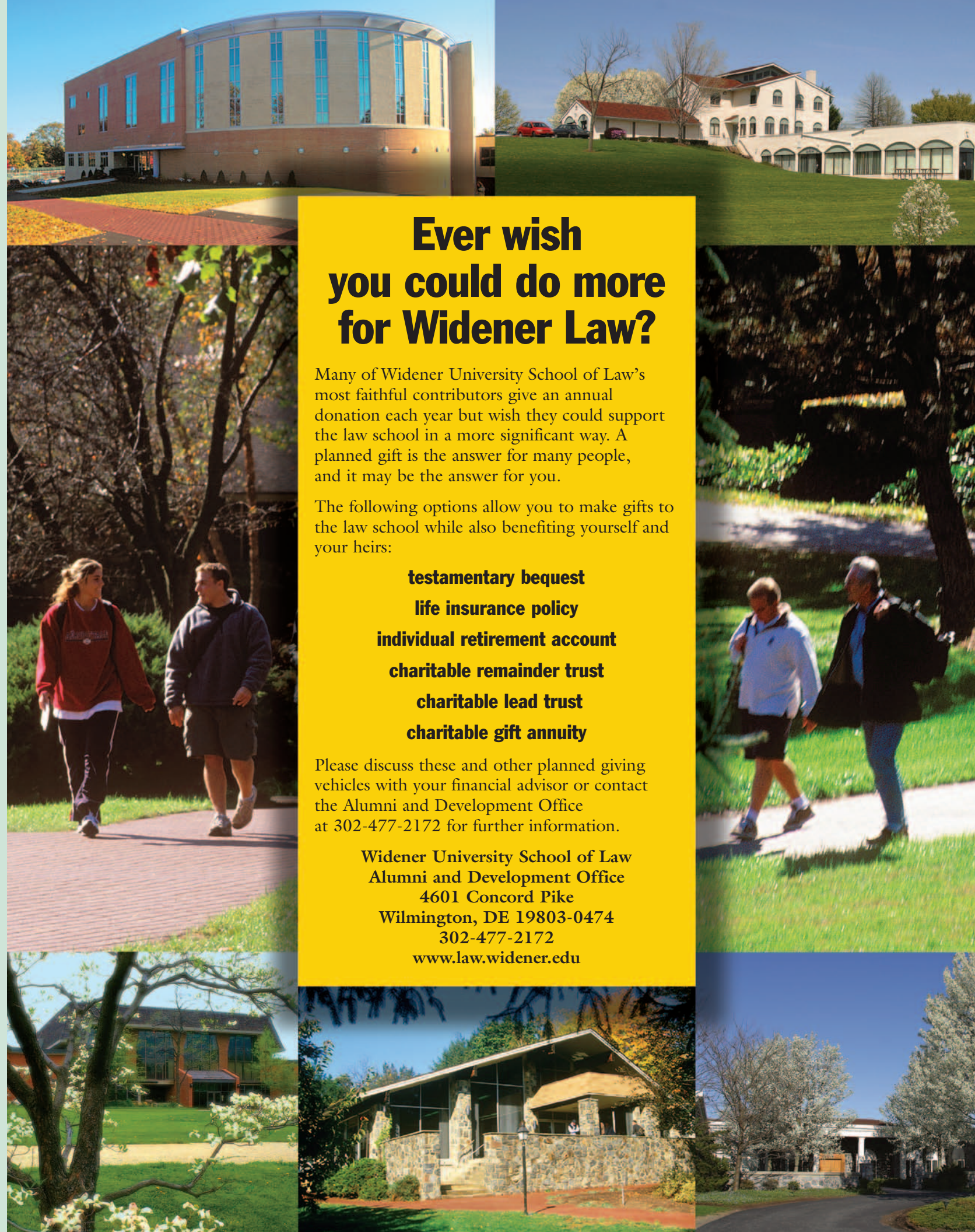
A third symposium was sponsored by Widener's Sports and Entertainment Law Society. It brought to campus an impressive array of some of the top practitioners in the field. Among them was Adjunct Professor Alex Murphy '76, who is an enthusiastic advisor to the society. Murphy was joined as a moderator of the symposium by Harrisburg-based professor, Michael J. Cozzillio, the author of two leading casebooks in the sports law field and the subject of an interview in this issue.

The success of a law school is measured in part by the success of its graduates, and this issue of our magazine highlights a number of outstanding alumni. Among them are Lee Solomon '78, who was recently elevated to the superior court bench in Camden County, NJ, and Carl Danberg '92, who became Delaware's attorney general when law school overseer Jane Brady stepped down as attorney general to accept an appointment to the Delaware Superior Court.

That commitment to public service is widespread among our student body. While I don't have space to name the dozens of students who excel in leadership positions throughout our school, I would like to thank our two SBA presidents, Anna Darpino in Delaware and Gretchen Ober in Harrisburg, as well as Vicki Goodman, the third Widener law student in our school's short history to serve as national chair of the ABA's law student division.

In passing the torch this year from former dean Douglas Ray to incoming dean Linda Ammons, I have had the honor of working with wonderful people on the faculty, in the law school and university administrations, and among our students, alumni, and friends. Widener University School of Law is an outstanding place, and I know its future is a bright one.

Michael J. Goldberg  
Acting Dean



## Ever wish you could do more for Widener Law?

Many of Widener University School of Law's most faithful contributors give an annual donation each year but wish they could support the law school in a more significant way. A planned gift is the answer for many people, and it may be the answer for you.

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# Is it More Difficult to File for Bankruptcy?

## Consumer Provisions of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005

By Juliet M. Moringiello

In April 2005, after eight years of legislative debates and almost a decade of press coverage about the advantages and abuses of the consumer bankruptcy system, Congress passed the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 (BAPCPA). BAPCPA makes some significant changes to consumer bankruptcy law, the effect of which is yet to be tested. This is because the rush to file for bankruptcy before the law went into effect has resulted in a mere trickle in consumer bankruptcy filings since October. In this article, I will explain some of the significant “anti-abuse” provisions in BAPCPA.

Before BAPCPA, an individual who wanted to file for bankruptcy had a choice: she could file for liquidation under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code or for a reorganization under Chapter 13 of the Code. If the individual chose Chapter 7, all of her “non-exempt” property would be sold and a portion of her debts would be paid from the proceeds of the sale. In the usual case, only a small portion of her debts would be paid. After the bankruptcy distribution, the debtor’s remaining debts would be discharged, meaning that her creditors were barred from pursuing her for the remainder of the debts.

On the other hand, if the debtor chose Chapter 13, she would be entitled to keep her property and would be required to pay a portion of her debts over a three-year plan. The minimum amount of debt repayment was the amount that would have been paid in if the debtor had filed for Chapter 7. The Chapter 7 distribution amount was the floor; if the debtor had significant disposable income, she was required to commit some of that income to her debts.

The pre-BAPCPA version of the Bankruptcy Code contained some incentives to steer a debtor to Chapter 13 rather than Chapter 7, including a “super-discharge” under which a larger number of debts were dischargeable under Chapter 13. Under both types of bankruptcy, student loans, alimony, child support, and some taxes were non-dischargeable, however.

The first type of abuse that Congress wanted to curb in BAPCPA was Chapter 7 abuse. One perception driving the reform legislation was that

too many people who were able to pay their debts under a Chapter 13 plan were filing for Chapter 7 instead, resulting in low payments to creditors and discharged debtors living happily ever after with their high incomes. While the pre-BAPCPA version of the Code contained a provision under which a bankruptcy judge could dismiss a Chapter 7 case for “substantial abuse,”

the use of this provision was inconsistent. Some judges used it, others didn’t.

To curb Chapter 7 abuse and to limit judicial discretion in identifying abusers, Congress adopted a means test. The effect of this test is that some debtors will be barred from filing for Chapter 7 and will be forced to file for Chapter 13 if they want to file for bankruptcy. The proponents of BAPCPA hope that this test will decrease the number of Chapter 7 filings and increase the repayment to creditors.

**While the pre-BAPCPA version of the Code contained a provision under which a bankruptcy judge could dismiss a Chapter 7 case for “substantial abuse,” the use of this provision was inconsistent. Some judges used it, others didn’t.**

Another type of abuse that proponents of bankruptcy reform wanted to address was inappropriate pre-bankruptcy planning. Anyone who followed the bankruptcy reform process in the media knows that certain states, such as Texas and Florida, are considered “debtor havens” because they have unlimited homestead exemptions. A few high profile debtors, such as former baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn, moved to Florida to take advantage of Florida’s generous exemptions before filing for bankruptcy.

Before BAPCPA, courts had a few tools at their disposal to punish debtors who moved to another state to take advantage of more generous exemptions before filing for bankruptcy. A guiding principle in pre-BAPCPA bankruptcy law was that bankruptcy provided relief to the honest but unfortunate debtor. As a result, a court can deny a debtor a discharge of all of her debts if she commits certain bad acts either before or during the course of the

bankruptcy case. One of these bad acts is transferring property to hinder, delay or defraud creditors.

Certainly, the sale of house in a low-exemption state to purchase a home in a high-exemption state before a bankruptcy filing could be considered fraudulent, but again, judicial application of these provisions was inconsistent under pre-BAPCPA Code. So, Congress removed all judicial discretion by enacting several provisions aimed at roving debtors.

**Before BAPCPA, courts had a few tools at their disposal to punish debtors who moved to another state to take advantage of more generous exemptions before filing for bankruptcy.**

BAPCPA substitutes a bright-line rule for a debtor-specific fraud analysis. While this provision might make people think twice before moving to Florida before filing for bankruptcy (and it’s important to remember that the average person filing for bankruptcy does not have the means to do so), it does not affect state law debtor protections if an individual does not file for bankruptcy. As a result, a losing defendant in a \$500,000 tort lawsuit can move to Florida, buy a big

house, and avoid paying the judgment if he stays out of bankruptcy!

Many criticize BAPCPA as too creditor friendly, but only time will tell whether or not creditors will fare better under BAPCPA than they did under the old law. In the meantime, lawyers need to become familiar with some complicated new provisions. **W**



*Since joining Widener’s faculty in 1993, Professor Moringiello has taught in the areas of property, bankruptcy, secured transactions, payment systems, the law of electronic commerce, sales, business organizations, and real estate transactions. She is an elected member of the American Law Institute and is involved in numerous law reform activities. She writes and speaks about bankruptcy, commercial law, and electronic commerce.*

# Breaking the Code

*Sweeping changes in personal bankruptcy law will have far-reaching effects.*

By John A. Wetzel, Esq. '75

Between October 1 and October 16, 2005, a total of 14,824 bankruptcy petitions were filed in the District of New Jersey (PA and DE statistics were not available). Between October 17 and October 31, 2005, a total of 156 petitions were filed. Similar numbers could be found across the nation for this same period. Not coincidentally, the Bankruptcy Abuse and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 became effective on October 17, 2005, and shouts of joy could be heard from much of the banking, landlord, and credit card lobbies.

In the works for a decade, the new law provides for sweeping changes in the Bankruptcy Code, making it much more difficult for consumers to eliminate debt obligations through a Chapter 7 or a Chapter 13 Bankruptcy. The act has been widely criticized across the country for reasons too numerous to address here. However, it is important to note some of the major changes in the Bankruptcy Code, because they are likely to affect anyone considering their options.

## The New Deal

The new law has dramatically increased the cost to the consumer by way of counseling requirements, bankruptcy counsel's fees, and overall costs in preparing to file. In the words of Judge Frank R. Monroe, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas:

"One of the more absurd provisions of the new Act makes an individual ineligible for relief under the

Bankruptcy Code unless such individual, 'has, during the 180-day period preceding the date of filing...received from an approved nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency...an individual or group briefing that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted such individual in performing a related budget analysis.'" See *In Re: Guillermo & Melba Sosa, 2005 Bankr. LEXIS 2658 (W.D. Tx. 2005)*.

This is a curious requirement, as the full weight and power of the federal government is now being placed on an industry with which it has clashed mightily in the past. Nevertheless, these court-approved counseling agencies typically charge about \$50 for their service—and may receive further compensation through commissions should the consumer opt for their voluntary payment plan instead of bankruptcy.

According to the *Washington Post*, only 4.5 percent of the 14,070 debtors receiving credit counseling from an interviewed agency actually had sufficient income to consider a payment plan over a few years. Of those 669 debtors, only 42 signed up for the debt-management plan. Nevertheless, the new requirement exists, but as stated by Judge Monroe, "[t]his court views this requirement as inane."

The other major cost increase comes by way of attorney's fees and pre-filing costs. The new law requires a complex and time consuming analysis of an individual's financial situation—likely causing fees to double in most areas. Attorneys are also faced with seemingly outlandish valuation requirements. Included with each filing must be a list of a debtor's

assets, ranging from their home's value to the value of their decades-old La-Z-Boy. Under the old law, the debtor could make a relatively simple determination of value based on how much the property would sell for on the lawn tomorrow. The new law requires a replacement value to be placed on each item, presumably by an appraiser, which adds significantly to bankruptcy's initial costs.

## Controversy Reigns

How many times have we heard the story about someone who filed for bankruptcy and managed to keep everything from their mansion to their Maserati?

Of course, even under the previous law, such a scenario was unlikely. Under the new law, it is even less likely due to modified homestead exemptions, which ultimately prevent forum shopping. A homeowner in a state that carries a homestead exemption (Florida and Texas) can keep property used as his or her residence from the reach of creditors, regardless of the amount of equity involved. However, the property must have been owned for more than 40 months, and the debtor must have lived in the state for two years. If the homeowner does not meet these criteria or if there are certain exigent circumstances, i.e. fraud, the homestead exemption is capped at \$125,000.

In a further attempt to prevent bankruptcy planning, the code prohibits spending non-exempt assets on improvements to a residence within ten years of filing if there is intent to defraud creditors.

Perhaps the most controversial change in the code involves the new law's presumption of abuse in all Chapter 7 cases. That is, a debtor is presumed to be abusing the system when filing a Chapter 7 Petition. The debtor must overcome this presumption by either passing a "median income" test, a "means" test, or showing other extraordinary circumstances. The "median income" test is used to see if your current monthly income, based on your average monthly income over the past six months, is less than the state's median income. If it is, the presumption is overcome. If not, then the debtor must look to the "means" test for help.

The means test takes your current monthly income and reduces it by federal and state allowed expenses for a similarly-sized family. Depending on the amount of funds left over after this determination, the debtor may or may not be able to proceed with a Chapter 7 petition. The key figure here is \$6,000. If the amount left over, multiplied by sixty, is over \$6,000, the debtor will be forced into a 60-month Chapter 13 repayment plan rather than a Chapter 7 liquidation. In effect, Congress is forcing people who wish to file for bankruptcy to pay at least \$100 per month for 60 months in as many cases as possible.

Can it be that the banking industry is taking such huge losses from bankruptcy filings that \$6,000 per debtor will ease the burden? According to JPMorgan Chase CEO James Dimon,

absolutely. The bank expects a boost of about \$500 million in the first two quarters of 2006 as a result of lower net charge-offs (money the bank loses when people fail to pay their credit card bills).

The banking industry must be using Enron-like accounting in their calculations as they fail to account for all the bankruptcies that will NOT be filed as a result of the new law.

Instead, a whole new class of people who cannot afford to make monthly payments through a Chapter 13—but are presumed abusers in a Chapter 7—will be left without a bankruptcy option. Are these people not simply charge-offs waiting to happen?

**Can it be that the banking industry is taking such huge losses from bankruptcy filings that \$6,000 per debtor will ease the burden?**

With the housing bubble gasping for air and many homeowners mortgaged to value, it is not difficult to see who will suffer the most from these changes: the middle class and working poor. We can only hope they have good health plans. **W**



John A. Wetzel '75 is a partner at Swartz Campbell LLC in West Chester, PA, and a member of the Board of Overseers, Widener University School of Law.

# Sports Law Q&A with Michael J. Cozzillio

**Q:** What are the hottest topics in sports law today and why?

**A:** The gambling scandal in pro hockey is the hot topic because it potentially implicates Wayne Gretsky, who's an icon, and his family. Then there's the omnipresent problem of steroid use and abuse. These issues are related because they provoke fan cynicism and the public's declining faith in the integrity of our athletes.



People want to know: How legitimate are the records these guys are setting? Statistics are the lifeblood of pro sports like baseball. Can we rely on what we see, or is someone corking a bat or taking performance-enhancing drugs? Worse yet, are players wagering for or against their own teams? Any way that you slice it, untainted heroes are becoming harder and harder to find.



**Q:** What about the issue of athletes receiving preferential treatment when it comes to breaking the rules?

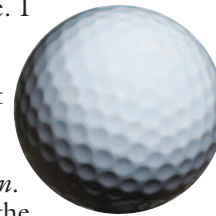
**A:** There are two schools of thought: Some feel the athlete has developed a sense of entitlement and can literally get away with murder. Others say athletes are subject to much closer scrutiny because of their celebrity status, and they're getting a raw deal because of it. In either event, there are troubling incidents involving athletes that are emerging into patterns, such as spousal abuse, and other examples of antisocial and often criminal behavior. Again, it has been suggested that violence against women is no more prevalent among athletes than the general population—it's just that athletes live in a fish bowl. That could be a cop-out and a symptom of denial.

**Q:** What can we do about it?

**A:** It's a serious issue when individuals who earn a living exploiting their physicality are using their strength to hurt others. The problem needs to be addressed as early as high school. Professional leagues should play a role in resolving the problem. Yet because professional athletes are unionized, development of disciplinary measures and other sanctions may be subjects over which the league must bargain in good faith. So it's not just about a commissioner stepping up and unilaterally addressing the issue. Even if he or she tried to act under broad powers to protect the integrity of the sport, there could be jurisdictional impediments to punishing misconduct occurring away from the ice, field or court. Of course, this does not stop high schools and universities and their affiliated conferences from taking a strong stand.

**Q:** What are the most important recent court decisions affecting sports?

**A:** Every commentator has a distinct view about which cases are significant in the overall scheme of sports jurisprudence. I believe that two of the more important decisions in the past decade were *Brown v. NFL* and *PGA Tour v. Casey Martin*. In the *Brown* case, the Supreme Court expanded what has become known as the non-statutory labor exemption, which insulates certain conspiratorial owner conduct from the reach of the antitrust laws—specifically where the alleged restraint concerns a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. This expanded view of the exemption was reinforced in a federal court decision involving Maurice Claret and the NFL.



The *Casey Martin* decision held that the PGA's refusal to permit Martin the use of a golf cart to accommodate a degenerative disorder that obstructs blood flow into the legs causing hemorrhaging and blood clotting constituted a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Q:** What are the legal implications of these decisions?

**A:** The *Martin* decision is significant because it applied the ADA in the competitive professional sports context. It found the PGA Tour to be a public accommodation and rejected arguments that the use of the golf cart threatened the integrity and fundamental nature of the sport. The impact of that decision could be felt in other contexts, including high school and college athletics.

The *Brown* and *Clarett* cases are important because certain restrictions on player mobility such as the salary cap, draft, restrictions on free agency, etc., give rise to potential legal challenges under the antitrust laws as conspiracies in restraint of trade. For years courts have held, however, that a player's recourse to antitrust remedies may be circumscribed if the alleged restraint is deemed to be a product of negotiation between league owners and the players union.

Major League Baseball, NBA, NFL, and NHL players are all represented by labor organizations. Because cases like *Brown* and *Clarett* have extended the reach of the exemption, the viability of an antitrust lawsuit in these contexts is somewhat tenuous. For example, an 18-year-old basketball player who would seek to challenge the NBA's new rule precluding eligibility for the draft until the age of 19 may find the challenge foreclosed because the rule is part of an agreement between the league and the players' association. Therefore, the only way to preserve the antitrust avenue would be for the players to decertify the union as bargaining representative. The NFL players have done this in the past in order to sue the owners over restrictions on free agency and threatened to do it again had this year's labor talks, particularly over the salary cap, broken down.

*Continued on page 8.*

**Q:** Under the topic “Sports and Inequality”: What has created the greatest controversy?

**A:** Title IX is one of the great areas of debate in sports law. On the one hand, it’s been so incredibly positive, with more than 3 million young women participating in high school athletics and more than 155,000 in college. The cost has been that some men’s programs have been sacrificed. Pertinent regulations and court decisions have embraced the notion of compliance by contraction. One way of establishing compliance with Title IX is for a school to provide athletic opportunities for male and female students substantially similar to their respective enrollments, characterized as the “proportionality” standard. Schools that don’t want to spend the money to achieve proportionality and meet other requirements for equality, such as scholarships and facilities, can simply cut men’s programs. Football and other big revenue producers are included in the equation. Thus, the death knell is often sounded for smaller, non-revenue producing men’s sports such as wrestling, gymnastics, and swimming.

Critics of Title IX argue that revenue producing sports such as football should be backed out of the equation and that only comparable sports should be factored into the proportionality formula. This could obviate the need to eliminate some men’s sports. Many Title IX advocates say that this is a way to circumvent equal treatment for women. The concern is that the incentive to

make more athletic opportunities available for women would be reduced. The truth is everyone is looking for some type of solution that continues the advancement of Title IX without hurting the existence of other programs. If you have any cure-alls, let me know. We could make a fortune!

**Q:** What’s a little-known fact in terms of inequality in sports?

**A:** Few people realize that in all of NCAA Division I-A football there are about four African-American coaches. It is staggering, especially when you think about the number of African-American student-athletes. The problem hasn’t gone away. But the professional sports leagues are making some efforts to promote diversity awareness and affirmative action. For example, the NFL has adopted the Rooney Rule which, in simplified terms, requires that teams filling coaching vacancies must interview minority candidates. Evidence suggests that the rule is a step in the right direction to promote greater diversity in the coaching ranks. Some question the rule’s effectiveness. Does it suggest tokenism, especially when people are brought in for interviews—even though the organization isn’t seriously interested?

At its best, it is more than tokenism. Additional opportunities are being presented. Old stereotypes may be on the way out as owners are exposed to a host of qualified African American coaching candidates. The success of African American

coaches this year, like Lovie Smith, Tony Dungy, and Marvin Lewis, proves that some of the old biases are ridiculous. The silly notion that African Americans lack the wherewithal to be good coaches or managers hopefully is dead and buried . . . much like the debunked myth that African Americans cannot play quarterback. Look at the success of Steve McNair, Donovan McNabb, and Michael Vick. Vince Young from Texas is next in line. Welcome to the real world.

**Q:** Other than Title IX, are there hidden gender discrimination issues?

**A:** Of course, women will constantly have to battle for equality in the sports world, traditionally a male enclave. Female umpires and referees, female coaches seeking equal compensation, women as broadcasters, etc., are all issues that will continue to command attention.

One subtle issue that I think requires more investigation is the way that young athletes, such as female gymnasts, are mistreated by coaches who are placing outrageous training and nutritional demands on their athletes in order to achieve ideal body types. The results are often serious health problems. It becomes even a more troublesome point, a tragedy at times, when one considers that parents are countenancing this behavior in some vicarious search for a gold medal. **W**

*Michael J. Cozzillio joined the faculty at Widener’s Harrisburg Campus as Associate Professor of Law in 1990 and was named Professor of Law in July 1999. He teaches and writes in the areas of Sports Law, Administrative Law, Contracts, Labor Law, and Race, Gender & Sports*



## Symposium Draws Top Sports & Entertainment Attorneys

Some of the most exciting areas of sports and entertainment law were the focus of discussion during a symposium on Widener’s Delaware Campus last November.

About 100 participants, including many Widener students, spent the day listening to and interacting with panels on sports, music, video games, and film/television. The Sports and Entertainment Law Society organized the event.

The discussion included topics such as contract negotiations for entertainment figures, the role of agents/lawyers in player solicitations, future effects of the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Grokster* ruling on the entertainment industry, and regulation of the video game industry, including conflicts between First Amendment rights and restrictions on violent games.

“We wanted to create a buzz,” Sports and Entertainment Law Society President Tanya Bridges says. “This is a field of law filled with big names and interesting issues, particularly given the fast pace of technology and its ability to deliver entertainment. We were pleased to bring such a dynamic event to the Widener campus.”

SELS contacted top attorneys in the field and assembled an impressive roster of speakers.

**Brondi Borer, Esq.** is vice president of the New York-based Entertainment Software Rating



*Adjunct Professor Alex Murphy, moderator.*

Board, which rates every video game sold in the United States. The system helps parents determine whether computer and video games are appropriate for children.

**Steven C. Beer, Esq.**, of the New York office of Greenberg Traurig LLP, has represented Britney Spears, the Backstreet Boys, Aaron Carter, \*NSYNC, and the Gin Blossoms. He is also founding director of The Center for the Protection of Athlete’s Rights.

**Justin B. Wineburgh, Esq.**, of the Philadelphia law office of Cozen O’Conner, has extensive experience litigating entertainment cases. He has served as litigation counsel to the producers of movies including *American Pie I and II*, *American Wedding*, *The Ring I and II*, *The Butterfly Effect* and *Monster-in-Law*.

**Robert J. Shaughnessy, Esq.** is a partner in Williams & Connolly LLP of Washington DC. He represented major motion picture studios in *Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc. v. Grokster Ltd.* since its filing, and has represented the studios or their trade association, the Motion Picture Association of America, in several other cases.

**Elaine D. Ziff, Esq.**, of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, specializes in intellectual property. She has represented Black Entertainment Television in its acquisition by Viacom Inc., and private equity investors in the acquisition of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. Ziff works in New York.

**M. Andre Buck II, Esq.**, of Sherman, Silverstein, Kohl, Rose & Podolsky, is a ’96 Widener School of Law alumnus from Philadelphia who devotes his practice to representing athletes, entertainers, and their related entities. He is an NBA Players’ Association certified player representative and has also worked in sports management and marketing.

Moderators for the day included Widener Professor Michael J. Cozzillio and Adjunct Professor Alex Murphy. Cozzillio teaches on the Harrisburg Campus and writes in the areas of sports law and race, gender, and sports. Murphy teaches and practices entertainment law. **W**

## REPRESENTING CELEBRITIES AND THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

### Kyle Bowser '91



For more than 20 years, Kyle Bowser '91, has worked as an entertainment industry executive in the film, television, music, theater, radio, and

news media.

Bowser, who earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Ohio University in Television and Film Communications, began his career working for Philadelphia International Records and NFL Films. Later, he promoted concerts, boxing, and special events at several venues in Philadelphia and Atlantic City.

After law school, Bowser relocated to the West Coast to join Fox, Inc. where he developed television programming, eventually becoming Director of Creative Affairs for HBO Independent Productions. He went on to found Res Ipsa Media, Inc. a multi-media production company that develops and produces film, television, music, and theater projects.

Bowser is an active member of the Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Association, the HollyRod Foundation, and the National Association of Minorities in Communications.

### Corey Field '01



Corey Field '01, a member of the Intellectual Property Group at Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll in Philadelphia, was an interna-

tional music publishing executive before becoming an attorney. That experience, as well as his bachelor's degree in music from the UC Santa Barbara and a Doctorate in Music Composition from the University of York, England, facilitated his career in copyright and entertainment law.

Field enjoys his work because it involves "helping creative people and companies create and protect their work, whether that work is music, film, or books." His clients have included a major record company, composers, recording artists, the estate of a novelist and screenwriter, cable TV production companies, an online computer game Web site, a Major League Baseball franchise, and a broadband Internet service provider.

In February, Field traveled to Los Angeles to attend the Grammy Awards. He serves in several national and regional capacities with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences

### Fortunato Perri Jr. '88



Although not an entertainment lawyer in the conventional sense, Fortunato (Fred) Perri Jr. has developed a successful criminal law practice that has seen more than its fair share of celebrity clients.

During the past year, Perri defended two hip-hop artists in murder trials. His representation of rapper Beanie Sigel, which resulted in an acquittal, brought national media attention. In January, Perri defended the rapper Cassidy, who was charged with first-degree murder. Although his client was convicted of involuntary manslaughter and aggravated assault after a bench trial, legal analysts considered the outcome a victory in light of the first-degree murder charge and the facts of the case.

Perri earned his undergraduate degree in criminal justice from West Chester University and worked as a prosecutor before forming McMonagle Perri McHugh & Mischak PC, in 1995. The firm handles a variety of criminal and civil matters, with Perri largely focusing on the criminal side. As his reputation has grown, so has his list of celebrity clients, including recording artists, athletes, and politicians.

"The media attention that these cases draw puts you under a lot more scrutiny," Perri says. "As an attorney in these cases, you shouldn't change the way you handle a case or the advice you give a client because of the publicity surrounding a high profile matter." **W**

## Graduates Join the Pennsylvania Bar

**Widener University School of Law graduates joined the Pennsylvania bar in two ceremonies.**



Harrisburg inductees

Sixty new Pennsylvania lawyers became members of the Pennsylvania bar last fall in two ceremonies specially scheduled for graduates of the Widener University School of Law.

A bar induction for Widener graduates was held for the first time in Harrisburg on November 9 in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court courtroom inside the Pennsylvania Capitol. Twenty-four new attorneys participated in the ceremony conducted by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Thomas G. Saylor. Loren D. Prescott Jr., vice dean of Widener's Harrisburg Campus, read the names of the inductees.

A second induction ceremony for Widener graduates was held November 10 in Philadelphia City Hall Courtroom 653. Thirty-six new lawyers were admitted during this event. Commonwealth Court President Judge James Gardner Colins presided over the ceremony with Court of Common Pleas President Judge Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson, retired Commonwealth Court Senior Judge Charles P. Mirarchi Jr. and Court of Common Pleas Judge Margaret T. Murphy McKeown '77.

Unique to Widener, the events allowed these law school graduates to

be admitted to the Pennsylvania bar alongside their friends and classmates. As the capital city's only law school, Widener officials believed an event for the Harrisburg Campus was well-deserved. It is expected to become an annual tradition.

"The day a new lawyer is admitted to the bar is as important as law school graduation," Acting Dean Michael J. Goldberg says. "We are pleased to welcome this new generation of attorneys to the bar and we are grateful to the members of the Pennsylvania bench in Harrisburg and Philadelphia who helped us make these ceremonies special." **W**



Philadelphia inductees



## NEW DEAN NAMED FOR SCHOOL OF LAW



By Mary Allen

**Linda L. Ammons** says she was impressed when she studied Widener “on paper” after being contacted by representatives for the school who were searching for the next dean. But Widener stood out, she said, when she met the people.

“I really began to appreciate even more the fine institution it is,” she says, reflecting on her first impressions. “They just really got my attention immediately.”

The feeling was mutual, and on January 5, 2006, Widener announced Ammons would be its associate provost and law school dean, beginning July 1. She will be the first woman and the first African American to lead the law school. When she takes office, Dean Ammons will be one of only two African American

females in the nation serving as a law school dean.

An accomplished lawyer, professor, and administrator, Dean Ammons comes to Widener from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland, OH, where she served as associate dean and professor of law. In this role, she chaired and served on a number of university committees in addition to teaching Administrative Law, Legislation, Mass Communications Law, and Women and the Law. Dean Ammons has also been on the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno, NV, since 1993.

Dean Ammons said the law school will get a leader who likes to celebrate good things, who does her homework, takes risks, and who believes in trying to get the very best out of people. “I am the kind of person who says, ‘Aim for the moon.’ You may not get it, but you get the treetops at least,” she says.

Prior to joining the Cleveland-Marshall, Dean Ammons served as executive assistant to former Ohio Governor Richard F. Celeste, from 1988 to 1991, advising him on legal and policy matters in the criminal justice, regulatory, and administrative areas. While in the governor’s office, she led the charge for the battered women’s clemency project that resulted in clemencies for 28 Ohio women. Dean Ammons subsequently initiated and co-chaired for two years the American Bar Association National Institute on Defending Battered Women in Criminal Cases.

“We believe Linda Ammons has the vision and drive to lead our law school to new levels of academic excellence,” Widener University President Dr. James T. Harris III says. “She is an exceptional leader with a national reputation who has demonstrated a commitment to public service that coincides closely with Widener’s mission.”

Dean Ammons was appointed to both the Ohio Supreme Court Futures Commission, as well as to the Ohio Public Defender’s Commission, on which she served two four-year terms. An Ohio State University Moritz College of Law alumna, she was selected out of 8,000 of her peers to be the recipient of the 2004-2005 Moritz Alumni Society’s Community Service Award.

As dean of Widener University’s School of Law, Ammons will oversee academics and operations at both the Wilmington and Harrisburg campuses. She replaces Douglas E. Ray, who stepped aside in July 2005 to resume his career as a teacher and scholar.

A native Ohioan, Dean Ammons is also an accomplished photographer. Her work has been displayed around the world, including at U.S. embassies in Maseru, Lesotho; Tbilisi, Georgia; Doha, Qatar; and Kampala, Uganda. Dean Ammons has siblings on the West Coast and her mother lives in Cleveland. “She is quite proud and happy, and she’ll be doing a lot of visiting,” Ammons says. **W**

### Serving Well

**Carl Danberg, Delaware Attorney General**



By Sandy Smith

“The most valuable thing you can take from a legal education is a different way of thinking. It teaches you to challenge both your opponents and yourself. You must always challenge your own legal arguments, because if you do not, you will fail to anticipate your opponents’ legal arguments.”

So says Carl Danberg ’92, attorney general of Delaware, who adds that Widener School of Law did an excellent job of preparing him to think like a lawyer.

Danberg was appointed attorney general by Governor Ruth Ann Minner in December 2005 when the elected incumbent, M. Jane Brady, resigned to accept an appointment as an associate judge on the Delaware Superior Court.

As Delaware’s attorney general, Danberg is responsible for prosecuting criminal law violators, serving as legal counsel to state agencies, and protecting Delaware consumers from fraudulent business practices.

He credits his parents, who were also involved in public service, as having the greatest influence on his career path, along with Jim Soles, who taught political science and international law at the University of Delaware, where Danberg received his bachelor’s degree.

“By the time I graduated from Delaware, I knew I wanted to go into public service; it was only a matter of where. Within a couple of years, I knew I wanted to go to law school.”

What Danberg remembers most about his years at Widener law school is the passion his instructors had for their subjects. “One of my favorites, Professor Wladis, teaches in a subject that I don’t use at all,” he says.

Associate Professor of Law John D. Wladis teaches secured transactions and commercial law, not Danberg’s specialty of constitutional law. “He was just terrific. He was one of those instructors who was passionate about his own subject and made it very interesting for the students in his class.”

Another standout Widener law professor Danberg remembers is Associate Professor Lawrence J. Connell, who teaches criminal law. “At UD and at Widener, I had professors who proved to be inspirational in the area of constitutional law, which remains a favorite subject for me. I still read heavily in that area, and it’s a subject I teach at UD.”

Soles, former UD professor Jim McGee, and Connell shared one common trait, he said: “All three were professors who knew their subject matter well, clearly loved their subject and conveyed that to their students. I think I developed my own love of constitutional law because of their passion for it.”

Danberg also developed his love for his wife at Widener. He met the former Barbara Snapp while both of them were enrolled at the law school, and they married during their second year. Ms. Danberg teaches courses in tax policy from time to time as an adjunct faculty member at Widener University School of Law.

Danberg believes strongly in the law as an instrument of public service. “There are always opportunities to give of your time for worthy causes throughout our community,” he says, “but a lawyer can serve both an individual in need and a societal need in a very unique way,” citing both pro bono service and representing the public interest as examples of the combination in action. He is working to advance legislation that would make it easier for lawyers to enter public service by forgiving the educational debt of attorneys who go into public service in Delaware.

“I’ve had the great pleasure of representing and serving the citizens of Delaware,” he says. “I think a legal career is a great way to provide service to the citizens of our community.” **W**

# ALUMNI IMPACT

## An Officer and a Defender

Captain Jonathan Crisp '98 Harrisburg, formerly a senior defense counsel with the U.S. Army JAG Corps, has worked on some of the highest profile—and most controversial—military cases during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He defended Pfc. Lynndie England, poster girl for the prisoner abuse scandal at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib Prison.

"I believe it's a testament to the school that a Widener alumnus is involved in such a high profile case," he says. "Based on conversations with Widener grads and others, I feel as if I'm contributing to the reputation of the school in a positive way."

Crisp signed on with the military after working as a public defender in Centre County, PA, for 14 months. A long-time interest in the military, coupled with a desire to work abroad and join the federal justice system, inspired his move to JAG. Having completed two 18-month tours in Germany and a stint at Fort Jackson, SC, Crisp is now a Command Judge Advocate based in Aberdeen, MD, where he lives with his wife and two-year-old son.

Here, Captain Crisp shares his thoughts on Widener, the finer points of military defense, and his infamous client.

### Why did you choose Widener?

I was interested in the public interest aspect of the law school. I knew my area of interest was litigation, not transaction work. My wife was going to Penn State, so geography played a role.

### What classes or professors had the most impact on you?

Robyn Meadows was an assistant dean at the time I was there. She had



the foresight to recognize that I had ability, and encouraged me to learn the discipline to go along with that ability.

The ITAP class is seemingly unique to Widener. I would recommend it to anyone who wants to litigate. What shocked me when I first took the class was how many different approaches attorneys can take at trial. There's no single method for trial attorneys: Generally speaking, you develop a style of your own that's credible. It was a very beneficial class—a short but intense period of time—and as close as you can get to real trial experience in law school. It forced you to think on your feet.

### What are the primary differences between civilian and military defense?

Defense attorneys in the military are called Trial Defense Service attorneys. In essence, you are a public defender. You are working for the government and essentially wearing the same uniform as the prosecutor. Sometimes the client has a mindset when he or she walks in that you are no different [from the prosecutor]. And, you have a different culture because your panels (military juries) are very different from civilian juries.

The crimes or offenses committed can also be very different, in part because the army has a great deal of control over the soldiers. For example, they can court-martial you for failing to show up for work on time. I think it's a lot harder to get an acquittal in the military, not only from the cultural standpoint but because a conviction can be obtained with only a two-thirds vote.

Another distinction is the Article 32 hearing. It's equivalent to a preliminary hearing but with one major difference: A 32 officer does not have the ability to dismiss a case or charge; he can only make recommendations. The person prosecuting the case, who is a commanding officer, can simply disregard that advice. A commander acts as the DA, and the commander is not an attorney. Guilty pleas are also different because you enter into an arrangement with the prosecutor for a maximum possible sentence, a cap. Then you have the ability to present a mitigation case (and the prosecution presents aggravation evidence) in an effort to further reduce your client's sentence.

### Take us through your work on the England case:

The offenses occurred in October/November 2003 and were discovered in January '04. I had just moved back from Germany and was working at Fort Jackson. Ironically, when the Abu Ghraib pictures hit the press around April, I was sitting in my living room and I watched Lynndie's initial interview on *Dateline*. I recognized the case would be inherently impossible to defend because of the effect those pictures would have on the soldiers in Iraq and our mission. I've defended probably every type of

case, from child molestation to murder, but it was one of those rare times where I said: 'I don't know if I'd even want to [take the case].'

About three months later, they sent Lynndie back to Fort Bragg because she was pregnant. She was represented by two military counsel, and she had gone through a number of different civilian counsel, none of which I was privy to at this time. I got a call in July 2004 wanting to know if I could represent her. I took the case because of the challenge. I wanted to know what happened, and the only way to find out was to get involved.

In August we went to an Article 32 hearing at Fort Bragg. She was arraigned in September, and we were set for trial in January '05 when the government decided to switch jurisdictions to Fort Hood, Texas. We struck a deal with the government for her to plead guilty so we could cap her official sentence. The deal was for 30 months, and we were going to trial in front of a jury in May.

Our plan was to call Cpl. Charles Graner to talk about their relationship. He was her boyfriend in Iraq, and he was the de facto individual in charge. While he was not the highest ranking non-commissioned officer, he had the most influence. He basically would admit how he abused and manipulated her.

The civilian counsel had never been in a military court before and started to ask a few questions he probably shouldn't have, so the judge cut him off and declared a mistrial (although I ultimately contended it was the judge who caused the mistrial.) In a military court you cannot, during a guilty plea, raise any allegation of a defense.

When Graner was testifying, he raised the argument that she was just following his orders because he was senior to her in rank. The judge said: "You raised a defense that is incompatible with her plea. Therefore, I am forced to throw out the plea and declare a mistrial."

That was hard. I had never been involved in a case that ended in mistrial. The civilian counsel decided, for financial reasons, to step down and Lynndie wanted me to continue representing her. We were unable to reach a deal with the government so we decided to go to trial. Our approach was to focus on her mental health because there were a number of specific intent charges. We weren't saying she was insane, just suffering from some form of diminished capacity or partial mental disability. We were conceding certain offenses up front because there was no smoking gun discovered at the time regarding communications within the chain of command. She ultimately received three years—which was the government's last offer. She was initially facing 38 years.

### What don't we know about this case?

She was the most junior soldier in that unit charged, the only one charged who wasn't an MP, and she was facing the greatest maximum sentence of any soldier there. I think what made this so notorious was the number of pictures released. The

primary reason why she was in these pictures was that Graner instructed her. She trusted him implicitly. I don't want to say that she was a scapegoat but if you go back and read through some things that were said by the chain of command—that these soldiers were seven rogue individuals—I think subsequent events have clearly questioned that.

### Was the three-year sentence a victory considering you started at thirty-eight years?

No, I don't believe she should have gone to jail for three years, so I wasn't happy. Trying to overcome the notoriety and inflammatory nature of those pictures was probably the most difficult thing.

There were a number of pictures not originally released that were part of the same Abu Ghraib case. They came from Graner's hard drive and his digital camera, so there were other pictures the public didn't see that the panel *did* see. This had an impact that was extremely difficult to overcome.

It was hard to get an impartial jury because everyone knew about those pictures and had seen them many months before the trial. Also complicating her defense was the fact that, early on, she was encouraged to engage in press interviews where she said things that were detrimental to her case. All of these things handicapped my ability to defend her.

W

# ALUMNI IMPACT

## Hitting Home

As an ACLU intern, Cheryl Humes '05, worked on cases and causes close to her heart.



When December graduate Cheryl Humes became the first Widener student intern for the ACLU Harrisburg office, she was motivated by interest in the Dover Area School District intelligent design case. After all, she majored in philosophy as an undergraduate at Bloomsburg and retains strong interest in the philosophy of science. Yet while she attended the Dover trial—even doing some blogging for the ACLU—little did she know that her internship would lead to direct involvement in another potentially landmark case that, for Humes, would hit even closer to home.

Formerly a classical pianist, Humes also spent 19 years as foster parent to six children. While interning for the ACLU in Harrisburg, she joined attorney Paula Knudsen on the

defense team of a controversial child custody case, which made international headlines when Schuylkill County officials took away the child of Melissa WolfHawk after she gave birth last October. The newborn's father, DaiShin John WolfHawk, had served 10 years in prison as a sex offender in New York 22 years ago.

This was the third child taken away from Ms. WolfHawk because her husband was a registered sex offender. The ACLU claimed the county was violating her civil rights and misusing sex offender registries.

Fortunately, "the WolfHawks kept everything they'd gotten from children and youth services," Humes recalls. "Melissa even made notes from phone conversations." A major issue in the case revolved around the

**"I am really committed to due process, and I think everybody deserves their right to be protected by our system."**

jurisdictional rights of the child welfare agency when it comes to an unborn child. Social services workers had visited WolfHawk's house and left notes warning that they were monitoring her pregnancy.

Says Humes: "We looked for things that have far-reaching effects and wanted to make sure we brought that out [in court]. It's beyond the jurisdiction of children and youth services to be concerned about a pregnancy."

The case also created a potential con-

flict for Humes as a foster parent. For years, she had worked with the same social service caseworkers who were on the other side. "This was my county, and my children, and the youth agency where I worked as a foster parent," she explains. "These were the same people I agonized with over decisions on how to do right by these children.... Our job is to reunify the family."

**"In this case there are two serious harms, and we have to balance one against the other."**

It would have been understandable if Humes felt conflicted about her role as a defender in this case, but her experiences in the foster care system and her belief in the justice system enabled her to keep a level head. "Obviously, I'm not a fan of child molesters but I am really committed to due process, and I think everybody deserves their right to be protected by our system."

So while Humes knew many people in the courtroom when she attended the federal hearing, she followed the rules of professional conduct and didn't converse with the other side. "Because of the way I approached foster parenting, it didn't cause as much conflict as it could have," she says.

Humes also had to deal with the media spotlight. Her office was inundated with calls from everyone from ABC to Oprah and Dr. Phil. "I heard some misstatements from people on TV," she recalls. "A lot of it had to do with little things—but things that were very important...They hadn't

been living together for a long time, and the judge questioned her on that. It was a sacrifice they were both willing to make but it didn't seem to make much difference."

Humes worked at the ACLU only two days per week, yet she drafted the first two petitions, plus the briefs and supporting documents. "The part I feel really good about is that we had to show imminent harm," she says. "In this case there are two serious harms, and we have to balance one against the other. On one hand, you think a parent is a child molester. On the other, if you take a child away in the first few weeks of life it causes disruptions in bonding the child may never get over." After obtaining a temporary restraining order, the ACLU national law office became interested in the case. WolfHawk is now represented by Mary Catherine Roper, and the case is on appeal in state court.

The semester prior to her internship, Humes had taken a civil and political liberties course taught by Professor Robert Power. "The subject was fresh in my mind and very helpful," she notes. Humes also worked on prisoners' rights cases in Pennsylvania county prisons. "It's getting more attention now because of Abu Ghraib. Abuses are being discovered even in our own country."

As for her future career, Humes is looking for a challenge, but she doesn't want to limit her options. "My main interest is constitutional law, which is why I applied for the internship," she says. "But I'm the type of person—and one of my professors, Ben Barros, pointed this out to me—whatever job I get, it will interest me. I'll throw myself into it." **W**

## Solomon Appointed to the Bench



By Sandy Smith

Lee Solomon '78, a member of the Widener University School of Law Board of Overseers, has gone from prosecuting criminals before the bench to sitting on it, having been appointed as a judge on the New Jersey Superior Court, Camden Vicinage.

The former Deputy United States Attorney for the Southern Vicinages of New Jersey was nominated for the judgeship by Acting Governor Richard J. Codey and sworn into office on January 13, 2006. As a judge in the Family Division, Solomon hears cases involving divorce, child custody, child support, domestic violence and juvenile delinquency.

The appointment is the latest move in a two-decade-long public service career that began in 1986, when

Solomon, then an attorney in private practice, was elected to the Haddon Heights Borough Council, where he served until 1994. In 1989, he was elected to the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders for a two-year term, where he wrote the first budget that cut county taxes as chairman of its Finance Committee.

In 1991, he was elected to the New Jersey General Assembly, where he sponsored legislation to protect victims' rights and prevent bias crimes, and authored a bill that put 2,000 more police officers on New Jersey's streets. He served in the legislature

for five years before being named first Acting Prosecutor, then Prosecutor for Camden County, during which time he also served as the appointed monitor of the Camden City Police Department, reorganizing the 390-member force. He was appointed to the federal post in 2002.

When Solomon reflects on his days at Widener law school, two aspects stand out. "One was their attention to training trial lawyers," he

says. "The second was the network of friends that I made there who later became colleagues. We've continued to work in the community since then. It's been a great asset to me." **W**

**When Solomon reflects on his days at Widener law school, two aspects stand out. "One was their attention to training trial lawyers," he says. "The second was the network of friends that I made there who later became colleagues...."**

# ALUMNI IMPACT

## Call of Duty

After Hurricane Katrina, Mark Eckard '04, volunteered for the Louisiana Prisoner Project. This is his story.



Like almost everything and everyone else along the Gulf Coast, Louisiana's criminal justice system was a casualty of Hurricane Katrina. More than a third

of Louisiana's lawyers lost their offices in Katrina. Courthouses were flooded, destroying a vast universe of records and files. Legal proceedings of all kinds were indefinitely halted.

In the midst of the confusion, approximately 8,400 inmates from southern Louisiana correctional facilities were scattered among 39 of the state's jails and prisons. Convicted first-degree murderers were transported and housed alongside college-aged kids arrested for public drunkenness the weekend before the storm. Inmates awaiting release dates, hearings, and trials were left in limbo—without contact from their lawyers and families, or any due process. Many had not yet been charged with a crime.

I was gratified when my firm, Reed Smith, provided me the opportunity to serve some of those affected by Katrina. Working with the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Efreem Grail, a partner in Reed Smith's Philadelphia office, asked for volunteers to go to Louisiana and interview inmates transferred because of the hurricane.

His email stated: "You need not practice criminal law to volunteer; this will be more legal 'first aid,' rather than brain surgery." Reed Smith would reimburse us for all of our travel and lodging expenses. Most

importantly, the firm credited all our time spent on the Louisiana Prisoner Project as billable. Reed Smith was putting its money where its mouth is regarding pro bono service, and I wanted to do my part.

The following week, I flew to Shreveport, where I joined five Reed Smith attorneys from across the country. We met a local attorney who led us to the first prison. Our task was simple: interview as many prisoners as possible to obtain basic information such as names, birth dates, lawyer's names, reasons for arrest or conviction, medical needs, Department of Corrections identification numbers, and case statuses. This information would be relayed to a group of Louisiana attorneys compiling a database of the whereabouts and condition of the transferees. The database would be used to secure due process for, among others, transferees who did not belong in jail; were awaiting release dates, hearings or trials; required medical treatment; or needed protective custody. Parish courthouses and records were destroyed, so we were helping create a new database of essential prisoner information.

During our interviews, we encountered people arrested for misdemeanors such as "possession of paraphernalia" and drunk driving who were sleeping on a gym floor next to inmates convicted of first-degree murder and rape. One of our attorneys discovered a minor in the midst of a jumbled population of transferees, who was immediately transported once guards were informed. We heard first-hand accounts from inmates abandoned in the Templeman III

building at the Orleans Parish Prison compound. They told us they were deserted sometime during the weekend of August 27-28, in an air-tight building with water up to their necks, and no food or water until their evacuation on September 1. We heard other harrowing stories at each of the four facilities we visited during the next three days.

We worked in conjunction with a team of criminal defense attorneys led by Phyllis Mann, an attorney from Alexandria, Louisiana. Phyllis' team compiled the database used to track the transferees. Working without pay and in horrible conditions, these attorneys exemplified the best of our profession. All had either lost their homes or couldn't reach them. They slept on Phyllis Mann's floor at night and crammed into her office by day. I was moved by their commitment to this underserved population.

My responsibility as an attorney extends beyond the clients I serve within a particular specialty. I have a duty to serve—where I can—those without the ability to pay the hourly rates charged by my firm. Arguably, the trauma of Louisiana's inmates may not have topped the priority list following a catastrophe that traumatized every aspect of Gulf Coast society. Yet the government of Louisiana had a duty to care for those committed to its custody. With the state unable to fully execute that duty and Louisiana's lawyers unable to fill that void, I was thankful for my ability to serve. **W**

*Mark has since left Reed Smith; he has moved to the U.S. Virgin Islands, where he works as an associate at Hamm & Barry in Christiansted, St. Croix.*

## Widener Opens Technology Law Center



An experimental E-classroom space that has opened on the Wilmington campus this semester has provided an exciting, state-of-the-art addition to Widener's technology resources. It is part of the Technology Law Center, created by the law school, which will offer programs to students on both campuses.

The E-classroom, called the Aquipt War Room after its corporate sponsor, is also being made available to law firms who are interested in seeing what technology can do for their trial preparation and performance. Aquipt is a national leader in litigation technology and is based in King of Prussia, PA.

"Aquipt has furnished this room with a host of technologies to permit us to educate students, faculty, judges, and lawyers on the legal issues relating to technology and the practical efficiencies associated with its use," says Delaware attorney Richard K. Herrmann.

The war room houses everything from computer workstations to a plasma instatheater projection screen. It is outfitted for students to conduct mock depositions in a simulated

board room and mock appellate arguments in a simulated courtroom—all outfitted with electronic equipment that allows the students to have their exercises taped and critiqued. The technology is a boost for students who want to hone the skills needed to make persuasive arguments, ask probing questions, and enter a courtroom with confidence.

"The room will undoubtedly improve the skill set and knowledge that Widener students will have when they leave the protective confines of law school and enter what has become a very high-tech and fast-paced legal world," student Emily Cantile says.

Cantile and fellow student Kevin Carroll participated in a demonstration of the room. "I am extremely excited by its practical implications," Carroll says. "By allowing instantaneous review of a student's courtroom demeanor, the technology allows students to focus on minimizing distracting quirks while maximizing the substance of their arguments."

While the Technology Law Center's showpiece is the E-classroom, it is much more, too. Herrmann says it is an evolving concept for teaching the

use of technology in the law. The center will offer technology programs in subjects like electronic discovery and a two-day intensive course on aspects of legal technology.

The center improves the law school's ability to serve students and will assist Widener in incorporating technology into the curriculum. It also augments the law school's ability to serve the local and national bench and bar by offering up-to-date instruction in applied legal technology through the school's Corporate Counsel Technology Institute.

Widener has appointed Herrmann visiting professor of law and director of the new center. He is overseeing administration, teaching technology-related classes, and guiding the center's growth. Recognized nationally as an expert in the field of legal technology, Herrmann is looking to build a working relationship among the law school, the courts, corporate counsel, and the legal community.

Herrmann also maintains an intellectual property and technology law practice with Morris, James, Hitchens & Williams LLP in Wilmington. **W**

By Palmer Lockard

Effective witness preparation begins when you find the best witnesses for your case. No matter how well you prepare your witnesses, if other witnesses could have presented more compelling testimony, you have not done your best. Find witnesses who can provide testimony in the most favorable manner. For example, do not call a convicted felon if a priest could provide the same testimony.

You should not conduct plenary interviews of every prospective witness the first time that you meet that witness. At this stage, you are still discovering who your friends are. Your questions should be open-ended. Your responses should reveal nothing about the effect that person's answer provides. This may be someone who will testify against you at trial; it would be unwise to let that person know anything about your case theory or any weaknesses in your evidence.

Talk to your witnesses. After you have identified the witnesses who might provide helpful testimony at trial, you need to get their complete testimony. This process entails a detailed interview in your office and transcription of the witness's accounts. The transcription is helpful in preparing for a trial, and it can be useful in the trial itself.

At this point, you should be comfortable sharing information about the case with the witness within the confines of the attorney-client relationship. Sharing the theory of the case and the anticipated testimony of other witnesses will make the witness "buy into" the proceedings and be more cooperative. Of course, you must be careful not to encourage the witness to the point that she embellishes her story.

Some attorneys suggest that the client be present during this formal interview of the witness. I believe that the client's presence is detrimental because it will make the wit-

ness reluctant to reveal damaging information.

As trial approaches, you will need to prepare your witness for her day in court. You should tell the witness exactly what questions you plan to ask—although you may be short on time or may not know what you need to ask until trial. Still, try to provide as much detail as possible.

It is even more important to find out what the witness's answers will be. Sure, you have the statement transcript, but we all know a witness's memory is fickle. The worst thing you can do is ask a question on direct examination without knowing the answer. Yet I hear attorneys complain with shocking frequency that a witness changed her testimony on the stand. I usually assume that the attorney did an inadequate job of witness preparation.

If your witness gives an undesirable answer to a question you plan to ask on cross examination, remember this: It is perfectly ethical to tell a witness that her answer will harm your case. The attorney does not have to remain mute during witness preparation. Ethical issues arise when you tell the witness her answer will be damaging and she says, "Well, what do you want me to say?" For some attorneys, the only ethical response is for the witness to answer the question truthfully—and if the answer is truthful, you cannot call her as a witness. That is an ethically pure response but it may help lose a winnable case.

In this situation, make sure the witness understands the question. Witnesses often answer questions they *think* they have heard, rather than what you have asked. The fault may lie with the way that you phrased the question.

If the witness understood the question, and her answer is still contrary to the answer that she gave in her original statement, she should have the opportunity to review that

statement and answer in the same way as when initially interviewed. This practice is perfectly ethical: The attorney is simply refreshing the witness's recollection and not suggesting any particular answer.

If her answer remains the same, it may be time to take aggressive action. The attorney can ask the witness why she believes her memory has changed, and this interrogation can be fairly forceful. Ask the witness to review documents and other witness' statements in an effort to jog her memory. If these steps fail, however, the attorney may not order the witness to provide the same answer that she gave in her original statement. The witness must believe that her answer is truthful. Otherwise, do not place her on the witness stand.

Some attorneys believe that conducting a mock cross-examination is helpful. However, few attorneys are able to conduct a searching cross-examination of their own witness. Those who do run the risk of alienating their witness.

Instead, spend time explaining the purpose of cross-examination and telling her what to expect. When I first entered legal practice, the stock advice to a witness was to offer only a "yes" or "no." That advice has gone out of fashion but I stand by it. Attorneys should have more confidence in their ability to find flaws in a witness's explanation.

Finally, if time permits, take the witness to the courtroom. Most witnesses find the courtroom intimidating. Becoming familiar with the environment will help overcome that feeling. **W**

*J. Palmer Lockard II is Associate Professor of Law at Widener's Harrisburg Campus and Director of the Harrisburg Civil Law Clinic. Professor Lockard received a BA from Drew University in 1973, and a JD from Washington and Lee University School of Law in 1978. He teaches and writes about creditor's rights, civil law, and family law.*

## Faculty News

### Professor Ann E. Conaway,



a Pennsylvania commissioner on The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL), has been appointed President of the Joint Editorial Board on Uniform Unincorporated Organizations Acts. The Board serves as a liaison between the American Bar Association (ABA) and NCCUSL.

Professor Conaway serves on NCCUSL's Drafting Committee on Amendments to Uniform Limited Liability Company Act; Drafting Committee on Uniform Statutory Trust Act, and Study Committee on an Omnibus Business Organization Code. She also serves on the ABA drafting committee for the Prototype LLC Act and the Delaware legislative committee for partnerships, limited liability companies and statutory trusts.

She received her BA from the University of Georgia and her JD from Temple University. She clerked for the Honorable Henry R. Horsey on the Delaware Supreme Court and practiced with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom before joining the faculty in 1985.

### Associate Professor Dana Harrington Conner



was recently named co-chair of Delaware's Fatal Incident Review Team, a group responsible for reviewing every death in Delaware that occurs as a result of domestic violence in an effort to reduce these deaths. At the request of Delaware State Senator Patricia Blevins and the Executive Committee of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, Professor Harrington Conner is also serving as a member of that council which was created to improve Delaware's response to domestic violence. Dana was also recently appointed by the Delaware General Assembly to serve a three-year term as a member of the Delaware Family Law Commission.

She received her BA in political science from the University of South Carolina and her JD from Widener University School of Law. She was the Managing Attorney at Delaware Volunteer Legal Services when she joined the full-time faculty in 2004.

### Professor John Dernbach



has returned to full-time teaching following two and one-half years of service as Policy Director for the Pennsylvania Department of

Environmental Protection. John is a nationally recognized expert on sustainable development. On January 30, he gave the keynote presentation on a proposed sustainable energy future for Pennsylvania at a conference at Penn

State University. He also gave a presentation on pollution prevention on February 26, 2006 in Denver at a conference on EPA and state innovation.

Professor Dernbach recently gave a presentation on law school exam writing at St. Thomas Law School in Miami (an encore to his first appearance there last year).

Professor Dernbach received his BS from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and his JD from the University of Michigan. He taught Legal Writing at Wayne State University following graduation and worked in various positions in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources from 1981-1993 before joining the Widener faculty in 1993.

### Visiting Associate Professor Jules Epstein,



who has been visiting at Widener since fall 2003, has accepted an offer to be a full-time member of the faculty. Jules was recently

named to the National Judicial College's Capital Litigation Improvement Initiative, where he will help draft a national curriculum and serve as a faculty member for upcoming training of Pennsylvania judges handling death penalty cases. He was also recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Professor Epstein is helping to plan the upcoming Pennsylvania Bar Institute's "Criminal Law Symposium 2006 Capital Case Training," at which he will also be one of the faculty members. He is a frequent panelist at

Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs. Recent presentations include: "Fall 2005 Evidence Update," at the Philadelphia Bar, Criminal Justice Section, and "Capital Case Litigation" a CLE program presented in February.

Professor Epstein received both his BA and his JD from the University of Pennsylvania. He began his legal career with the Defender Association of Pennsylvania. He practiced criminal defense law with Kairys, Rudovsky, Epstein & Messing, and has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of Pennsylvania since 1988.

### Professor John Gedid,



Director of Widener's Law & Government Institute, will be participating in the Fourth Annual Administrative Law Discussion Forum at the

University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law, co-sponsored by Washington & Lee University School of Law. His paper will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Administrative Law Review*. John will also be the keynote speaker on state administrative law in June at the annual convention of the National Association of Administrative Law Judges in Des Moines. He was also recently appointed vice chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association statutory law committee, and is the chair-elect.

Professor Gedid received his BA from the University of Pittsburgh, his JD from Duquesne University School of Law, and his LLM from Yale Law School. He clerked for the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania. He taught at Duquesne from 1972-89, where he served as acting dean in 1982.

### Professor Juliet Moringiello



recently completed her project as Reporter for the American Bar Association (ABA) Working Group on Local Rules for Electronic Case

Filing in the Bankruptcy Courts. The report was approved by the Council of the ABA Section of Business Law in January and presented to the ABA House of Delegates at its Mid-Year meeting in Chicago.

On October 27, Professor Moringiello delivered a presentation on Electronic Contracting at the Electronic Commerce Program held at the Judicial Institute of Maryland in Annapolis.

Juliet has been invited to become a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. She is a member of the American Law Institute, a member of the ABA Standing Committee on Publishing Oversight and serves on the Section Council of the ABA Business Law Section and Co-Chair of the Electronic Commerce Subcommittee of the Cyberspace Law Committee. She is also the chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Commercial and Related Consumer Law.

Professor Moringiello earned her BSFS from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, her JD from Fordham University School of Law, and her LLM in legal education from Temple University School of Law. She joined the Widener faculty in 1993.

### Professor Andrew Strauss



delivered the Henry Osborne Memorial Lecture to members of the British Parliament in the Houses of Parliament in London on March 8, 2006.

He then went to Athens on March 10, as an expert panelist at the Global Governance Group's conference on democracy and good governance. Professor Strauss also chaired the panel, "Is International Law a Threat to Democracy?" at the International Law Association's Annual International Law Weekend in New York, on October 21. He was also a presenter on the panel, "Adjudicative Approaches to Climate Change."

Professor Strauss delivered the keynote address, "Fulfilling the Vision of the United Nations," to the Duquesne Model United Nations in Pittsburgh on January 27. He also addressed the Duquesne University Graduate Center for Social and Public Policy, on "Grand Schemes and Incrementalism: Toward a Model of Change in the International Legal System."

Andy chaired the panel "Does the Iraqi Constitution provide a Framework for a Viable Social Order? A Post Election Assessment," on January 6, at the AALS Annual Meeting in Washington DC.

Professor Strauss received his BA from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and his JD from NYU. Prior to joining the Widener Faculty, he practiced with Shearman & Sterling and Graham & James in New York City.

# FACULTY PUBLICATIONS 2005 – 2006

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### Susan Chesler

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### John G. Culhane

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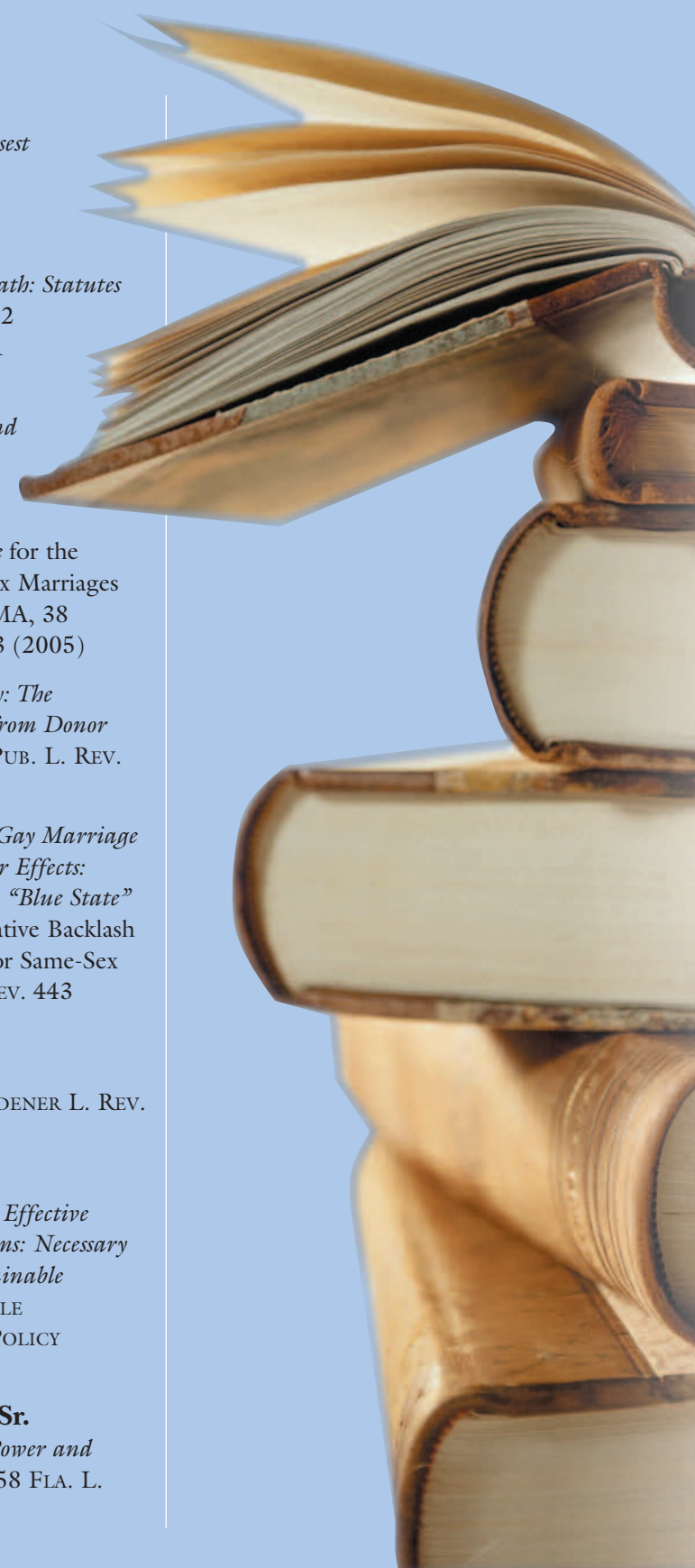
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### John Dernbach

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### Jean M. Eggen

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### Alan E. Garfield

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### Robert Justin Lipkin

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### Andrew L. Strauss

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### Serena M. Williams

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# Widener School of Law 30th Anniversary Celebration



*From left, former Widener law school dean, Anthony J. Santoro, the Honorable Anthony A. Sarcione '78, and Alexander V. Sarcione reminisce at the law school's 30th anniversary celebration on October 7, 2005.*



*Acting Dean Michael J. Goldberg narrates a presentation about the history of Widener University School of Law.*



*Eugene D. McGurk Jr. '78 presents the "Alumnus of the Year" award to Steve P. Barsamian '75.*



*Attendees share law school memories in the grand hall overlook at the National Constitution Center. More than 300 alumni and friends gathered for the special evening.*

*The Honorable Charles P. Mirarchi Jr. receives applause for his support of Widener University School of Law in its early years.*

*Widener University President James T. Harris III addresses alumni and friends of the law school at the National Constitution Center.*



*Keynote speaker, the Honorable Marjorie O. Rendell.*





# Philadelphia Alumni Reception at the Ritz-Carlton March 23, 2006



*Acting Dean Michael Goldberg and Jennifer Stonerod '05*



*(L to R) David Denenberg '87 and Alan Denenberg '88 catch up on events with student Sarah Sodrck*



*(L to R) Charles Proctor '76, Judge David Lang '76, and Michael Donohue '05*



*(L to R) Walter Strine, Alice Strine '92, and Alumni Board President Steve Barsamian*



*(L to R) Bruce S. Allen '76 and Howard P. Rovner '80*



*(L to R) Len Edelstein, Susanne Slawe, and Lou Slawe '75*



*(L to R) William Averona '75, Judge Anthony Defino, Judge Steven Geroff, and Justice Ronald Castille*



*James Elam '97 and Catherine Humphrey-Bennett '95*



*Patrick Murphy '99 and Jean Stafford*



*(L to R) Heather Tereshko '01 and Lorraine Possanza '00*



*(L to R) Alumni Board President Steve Barsamian '75, Judge Lee Solomon '78, Chairman of the Board of Overseers Eugene McGurk '78, and Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham*



*(L to R) Scott Blissman '97, Tanya Colbert Blissman '97, Michael O'Malley '95, Amy Vanni '99*



*(L to R) Student Jeff Ostek, Lisa Pietras '05, Madie Jeremiah '05, and Christopher Cabott '05*



*(L to R) Paul Leary '95, Jim Golkow '86, and Justin Wineburgh '97*

**For additional photos of the event and other alumni gatherings, go to [www.law.widener.edu/alumni/news](http://www.law.widener.edu/alumni/news).**

# Harrisburg Alumni Reception

April 4, 2006, at the Whitaker Center



(L to R) Joseph Harom '01 and Jacqueline Jackson-DeGarcia '93



(L to R) Pat Fox, Co-Director of the Legal Information Center, and La Toyin Rollins '05



(L to R) William Rozier '04, Janet Wise '92, and Rich Alloway '02



(L to R) Acting Dean Michael J. Goldberg, Dean Designate Linda L. Ammons, and President James T. Harris III



(L to R) Mary Catherine Scott '94, Monica Cliatt '99, and Dean Designate Linda L. Ammons



(L to R) Gretchen Ober, Student Bar Association President; Ryan Riley, Widener University Student Government Association President; and Karen Durkin '79, Director, Career Development Office

For additional photos of the event and other alumni gatherings, go to [www.law.widener.edu/alumni/news](http://www.law.widener.edu/alumni/news).

## Alumni News

### Widener University School of Law Alumni Association Executive Council

#### President

Steven P. Barsamian '75

#### Vice President

Frank C. DePasquale, Jr. '86

Renae B. Axelrod '91, Secretary

#### Directors

Thomas R. Anapol '91

The Honorable

Raymond A. Batten '79 \*

The Honorable Robert S. Blasi '75

Scott E. Blissman '97 \*

John F. Brady '91

Christopher Cabott '05

The Honorable

Richard M. Cappelli '81 \*

Representative Mark B. Cohen '93

Bernard G. Conaway '89

Michael J. D'Aniello '83 \*

Anna M. Darpino,

Student Bar Association President,

Ex Officio Member

The Honorable

Michael A. Diamond '82 \*

Brian P. Faulk '02

Kenneth D. Federman '93

Catherine N. Harrington '88

W. Bruce Hemphill '84

Michael J. Heron '03

Damian S. Jackson '96

John F. Kennedy '01 \*

M. Susan Williams Lewonski '98 \*

Kathryn A. Macmillan '78 \*

Anne M. Madonia '94 \*

Peter V. Marks, Sr. '77 \*

Cecilia M. McCormick '91

Jeffrey W. McDonnell '94 \*

David C. McFadden '96

Frank J. McGovern '95 \*

Maria C. McLaughlin '92

James F. Metka '80 \*

The Honorable

Paul P. Panepinto '76

Jonathan E. Peri '99

Dr. Stephen R. Permut '85 \*

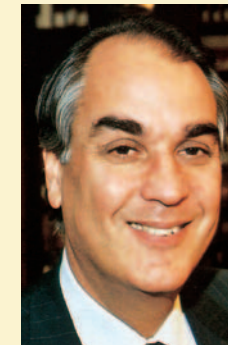
George T. Ragsdale III '92

Larry S. Raiken '75

Karen Ann Ulmer '95 \*

Meghan L. Ward '03 \*

\* Congratulations to these new members of the Alumni Board.



#### Dear Alumni and Friends:

2006 promises to be a banner year for the Law School Alumni Association. We have restructured the Association and have new members representing most classes from 1975 to the present. Their names are marked with an asterisk in the adjacent column. I welcome all new alumni and thank those whom we were unable to select. The enthusiasm and eagerness of our new board holds the promise of unprecedented future success. We are lacking

alumni board candidates from class years 1987, 1990, and 2000, and I ask interested graduates from those classes to contact me at [law\\_alumni@mail.widener.edu](mailto:law_alumni@mail.widener.edu).

On March 23, the 31st Annual Philadelphia Reception took place at The Ritz-Carlton with more than 250 graduates and friends of the Law School attending. More than 50 alumni, friends, faculty and staff gather on April 4 at the Whitaker Center for the Harrisburg Alumni Reception. Thank you to all who supported these events by attending or purchasing an ad.

Our 30th anniversary celebration was held on October 7, at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. More than 300 alumni and their guests enjoyed an evening of camaraderie, and law school history and stories. Highlighted by the keynote remarks of Judge Marjorie Rendell of the U.S. Court of Appeals, and in the background of Independence Mall and the Liberty Bell, the evening was a perfect way to celebrate 30 years of the Widener University School of Law.

In July we welcome our new Dean Linda L. Ammons. We look forward to her taking the helm and leading us to new levels of excellence. Dean Ammons is eminently qualified to lead our school and will continue the great work of deans Douglas Ray and Michael Goldberg. We welcome Dean Ammons and look forward to many years of wonderful leadership. We know she will make a difference.

I invite all alumni to continue to contribute to the Widener Law Fund, The Alfred Avins Special Collections Library, and other Law School fundraising efforts. We depend on your continued dedication, so be prepared for our new association members to call on you for support. I know you will respond generously!

Sincerely,

*Steven Barsamian*

Steven Barsamian, Esq.

# CLASS NOTES



## 1976

**The Honorable Paul P. Panepinto** has been named Coordinating Judge of the Complex Litigation Center of the Court of Common Pleas for Philadelphia. He previously served as Administrative Judge of the Family Court. As Coordinator of the center, Judge Panepinto will oversee the thousands of mass tort claims filed in Philadelphia each year, and institute policies and programs which dispose of large numbers of cases in a fair and impartial manner. Judge Panepinto received an Honorary Italian Knighthood or "Cavaliere" in a ceremony on October 13, 2005, presided over by the Vice Consul General of Italy, Raffaele Brigli. This recognition is conferred jointly by the president and prime minister of Italy and grants him membership into the exclusive Order of Merit and the Italian Republic given in recognition of service in the arts, law, science, economics, literature, and public service.

## 1978

**Edward J. DiDonato** was a course planner and featured speaker at the Philadelphia Bench-Bar Conference on the new bankruptcy law. He recently planned and spoke on the new law for Penn State Continuing Education. His practice is limited to bankruptcy law.

**The Honorable Lee A. Solomon** was sworn in as a Superior Court Judge of Camden County, NJ, on January 13, 2006.

## 1979

**Cynthia Rhoades Ryan** is the general counsel of the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, a Department of Defense agency.

## 1980

**Rocco P. Imperatrice, III, Ronald A. Amarant '85,** and **John P. Capuzzi Sr. '88,** have announced the opening of their new office in Newtown Square, PA.

**Alan B. Levin** has been named chairman of the board for the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce for the next two years. He is the president and CEO of Happy Harry's Inc. of Wilmington, DE.

**John Meighan** retired from the FBI after 22 years as a Special Agent.

## 1981

**John J. Barr,** managing and founding partner of Palmer & Barr PC, a regional law firm located in Willow Grove, PA, has become a member of the Board of Directors of Sovereign Exploration Associates International Inc., a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 undertaking shipwreck exploration and recovery initiatives.

**Christine K. Demsey** was awarded a "Commitment Award," one of the Delaware State Bar Association's Pro Bono Service Awards, at the State Bar Night in January 2006.

**Jeffery B. Fromm** has joined Hewlett-Packard Company as vice president, deputy general counsel, and director of intellectual property.

**Gary Jaffe** has joined the firm, Hamburg Ruben Mullin Maxwell & Lupin. Prior to joining the firm, Jaffe had been a named partner in the practice he founded, Jaffe Friedman Schuman Nemeroff Applebaum & McCaffery.

**Michael P. Meehan,** a government relations attorney, has joined WolfBlock as counsel in Philadelphia.

## 1982

**Hugh A. Donaghue** and **Kathryn L. Labrum '81,** have formed the law firm of Donaghue and Labrum in Media, PA. The firm focuses on insurance law, personal injury, municipal law and commercial litigation.

**Joseph J. Risi** was named deputy superintendent of insurance for the New York State Insurance Department. Risi will coordinate various department management initiatives. He is also involved with many civic and charitable organizations, serving as Chairperson of Consumer Affairs for the Community Board of the Borough of Queens, a member of the Queens Aviation Advisory Committee, and a board member of the Selective Service System.

## 1984

**Anne Covey** of Covey & Associates, PC was reappointed by Governor Rendell to the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board. She is the first woman reappointed to the Board since its inception in 1937.

**Steven J. Eller, CPA** has joined Rosen Seymour Shapss Martin & Company LLP, New York City as a tax partner. Eller is a licensed attorney in New Jersey and admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court. He is the chairman of the NYSSCPAs New York, Multistate, and Local Tax Committee.

**Irene deVaux Hensinger** has been selected as the executive director for The Historical Society of Saginaw County, MI. She retired as a principal in the Saginaw School District last year and had returned to Saginaw in 1985 after working as a school administrator on the East Coast.

**Donna Lee Williams** has been named the new director of government and industry affairs for AAA Mid-Atlantic. She is a resident of Dover and former insurance commissioner for the State of Delaware.

## 1985

**The Honorable Alan N. Cooper** has been appointed to fill a seat on Delaware's Family Court as an associate judge by Governor Ruth Ann Minner. Cooper has been a lawyer with Berkowitz, Schagrin and Cooper in Wilmington, DE, for the past 20 years. He is married and has two children.

**Stephen Permut, MD,** assistant dean of academic affiliations and chair of family and community medicine at Temple University School of Medicine, has been elected to several positions at the American Medical Association; Chair of the Southeastern Delegation, Vice Chair of the Council on Legislation, and the Board of Trustees' Task Force on Patient Safety.

## 1986

**Frank C. DePasquale Jr.** opened a general law practice in Philadelphia, the DePasquale Law Office, on December 15, 2005. He will continue to co-counsel with his former firm, Raynes McCarty, in matters involving complex litigation.

**Craig S. Laughlin** was recently certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a matrimonial law attorney. He has an active practice in Hazlet, NJ, and is only the fourth attorney in the state to be certified by the supreme court as both a matrimonial attorney and a civil trial attorney.

**Peter E. Warshaw, Jr.** a 19-year veteran of the prosecutor's office of Monmouth County, NJ, was sworn in as first assistant prosecutor and chief of county detectives in Freehold, NJ.

**James S. Yoder,** counsel in the Wilmington office of White & Williams, has been appointed a panel mediator and arbitrator by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the District of Delaware. Yoder is counsel in the creditors' rights practice group of the business department.

## 1987

**Robert A. Auclair** was recently appointed to a three-year term as a Hearing Committee Member for the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Auclair's firm, Robert A. Auclair PC, maintains offices in Media, PA, and Woodbury, NJ. He also is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia.

**Gary B. Eidelman,** a partner in the business department and vice office managing partner in the Baltimore office of Saul Ewing LLP, was elected to the Board of Directors for the Downtown Partnership at its 2005 Annual Meeting. The



Downtown Partnership is a nonprofit corporation working with the public and private sectors to make the city a great place for businesses, employees, residents and visitors.

**Martin S. Weisberg** has joined the firm, Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter & Stein, as a partner in its New Jersey office. He concentrates his practice in creditors' rights, mortgage and tax lien foreclosure, and bankruptcy.

## 1989

**Bernard G. Conaway** was recently elected partner with the law firm of Fox Rothschild in Wilmington, DE. He is a member of the litigation and the financial services departments.

**N. Lynne Hughes** was named chief legal officer and vice president of legal affairs for the eastern division of Harrah's Entertainment Inc. in Atlantic City, NJ.

**Patrick S. Mintzer** joined the firm Curran & Rassias in Media, PA, and concentrates his practice in plaintiffs' personal injury.

**J. Breck Smith** has joined Fox Rothschild as a partner in the real estate department in Wilmington, DE.

## 1990

**Gino J. Benedetti,** a shareholder in the Philadelphia law firm of Miller, Alfano & Raspanti PC, presented as a faculty member at the National Business Institute's Continuing Legal Education seminar on "Federal Civil Practice: A Guide for Pennsylvania Attorneys."

**David B. Kline,** a shareholder in the Conshohocken, PA, firm of Villari, Brandes & Kline PC, presented a seminar on October 14, 2005, entitled "Important Changes to No Child Left Behind as a Result of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004" to parents of children with special learning needs. Kline also spoke about due process and special education law at a seminar entitled "Discipline of Special Education Students in Pennsylvania," and was co-presenter at a special education seminar, "The Impact of No Child Left Behind" in December.

**Girard J. Mecadon** of Pittston Township, PA, was married to Christa Ann DeVizia on August 13, 2005, in Wilkes-Barre. He is a general practitioner with a law office in Pittston.

**Vincent S. Ziccolella Jr.** married Thea Bancroft on May 20, 2005. He is employed as senior corporate counsel for DSM Nutritional Products Inc., N.A. in Parsippany, NJ. He and Thea live with their four children in Chatham, NJ.

## 1991

**Carolyn A. Afshar** joined Wilmington Trust Company as vice president and counsel.

**Kathleen (Cellucci) Clemmensen** has joined LandAmerica Commercial Services in Philadelphia as assistant vice president, business development.

**Honorable Joelle P. Majerski Hitch** has been appointed as an associate judge to fill a seat on Delaware's Family Court. She has been a Family Court Commissioner since 2001. Before that, Hitch was a state deputy attorney general who represented child protection workers with the Division of Family Services. She is married and has three children.

**Gregory S. Nesbitt** has become a partner with Kilcoyne & Associates LLC in Plymouth Meeting, PA.

**John L. Reed** has joined the law firm of Edwards & Angell as a partner in the Wilmington office. For the previous five years, Reed had served as managing partner of the Wilmington office of Duane Morris.

# CLASS NOTES



## 1992

**Allen R. Baum**, a partner in the firm, Hutchison & Mason of Raleigh, NC, has been named the president-elect of the Licensing Executives Society Inc.

**Alfred J. Carlson III**, a partner with the Philadelphia firm, Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson, participated in the National Bar Institute's seminar entitled "Advanced Workers Compensation in Pennsylvania" in Philadelphia. He has been a litigator of Pennsylvania workers' compensation cases since 1992.

**Scott D. Cousins** has become the vice president of FPL Energy LLC in Juno Beach, FL.

**Carl C. Danberg** was named by Governor Ruth Ann Minner as Attorney General for the State of Delaware to complete the term of the Honorable M. Jane Brady, who was appointed to the Superior Court of Delaware. He has been chief deputy attorney general since 2004 and served as deputy attorney general in the civil division from 1994 to 1996.

**Paul DeGroot** has been promoted to senior assistant prosecutor for Passaic County, NJ, and has been a regular guest commentator on Court TV and was quoted in *The National Law Journal* in May 2005.

**Claire M. DeMatteis**, office director at Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young's Wilmington, DE, location, received the Girls Incorporated of Delaware "Strong, Smart & Bold" award. DeMatteis was honored for being a role model for girls and young women in the workplace. Additionally, DeMatteis traveled to Taiwan late last year to speak at a corporate legal conference sponsored by several major Taiwanese government agencies and bar associations. She discussed Delaware corporate law and the advantages of incorporating and doing business in Delaware.

**Gabriel H. Holdzman** has joined Auxilium Pharmaceuticals Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company based in Malvern, PA, as associate general counsel. He had been in-house counsel for AmerisourceBergen, a pharmaceutical distributor.

**Jeffrey A. Wothers** was elected as managing partner in his firm, Niles, Barton & Wilmer LLP, in Baltimore.

## 1993

**Marc D. Collazzo** joined the law practice of Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford in Lansdale, PA. His practice focuses on support, custody, divorce, and protection from abuse.

**W. Christopher Componovo** was elected vice president of the board of governors for the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association for 2005-2006.

**Frank Donaghue** has been named chief counsel to Pennsylvania's Gaming Control Board. Donaghue had been the head of the consumer protection bureau of the office of the attorney general.

**Patrick H. Higgins** has recently been elected a partner at Fox Rothschild in Philadelphia. He practices in the strategic positioning of discovery assets, opinion work and the evaluation of legal risk in the pharmaceutical industry.

**Major Michael S. Mikulski**, a partner in the firm Connor Weber & Oberlies in New Jersey, returned to his practice in October after serving 12 months in Iraq. He was stationed Fallujah's Al Anbar Province where his team mentored a battalion of Iraqi soldiers. For his service, Mikulski was awarded the Bronze Star.

**Colonel Chuck Mitchell** and Dorothee Lorenz were married in a civil ceremony



on September 14, 2005, in Georgetown, TX. Ms. Lorenz, of Nuremberg, Germany, is an attorney practicing immigration law for a Washington, DC, law firm. Col. Mitchell is assigned to the Headquarters Staff, III Corps at Fort Hood, TX, and recently completed a year-long tour in Iraq as the inspector general to General George Casey.

**David M. Tatarsky** has been appointed as general counsel for the South Carolina Department of Corrections. The department incarcerates approximately 24,000 inmates in 29 institutions and employs 6,000. He and his wife, Lori, reside in Lexington, SC.

## 1994

**Michael F. Consedine**, a partner in the Harrisburg office of Saul Ewing, was recognized for legal excellence in the 12th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, a prestigious biennial list published by Woodward/White, Inc. Consedine practices insurance law.



**Mark K. Emery** and his wife, **Catherine A. Boyle '95**, welcomed twin boys, Nathan and Ryan, in October 2004. Cathy is a partner in the Harrisburg firm of Meyers, Desfor, Saltzger and Boyle. Mark is the owner of The Law Offices of Mark K. Emery and is a special referee with the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

**James P. Hall**, of Wilmington, DE, has been named a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. He is the ninth Delaware attorney inducted. Members are attorneys who have won million and multi million-dollar verdicts, awards, and settlements. He works for the Wilmington, DE, firm of Phillips, Goldman & Spence PC.

**Anne M. Madonia** of Cozen O'Connor recently spoke at the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce's Young Professional Network summer associates reception at Brasserie Perrier in Philadelphia.



**Matthew J. Maguire** was elected of counsel to Pepper Hamilton LLP in its Philadelphia office. Maguire represents management in a variety of labor and employment matters.

**Hemant Pathak** has been promoted to senior corporate attorney at Microsoft. He is based in Microsoft's Washington DC offices, and his areas of concentration are software licensing, software anti-piracy, intellectual property and government contracts law. He is also a faculty presenter of the program "Step by Step Success: Achieving Best Results When Advising a Large Technology Procurement" at the 2005 Association of Corporate Counsel annual meeting in Washington DC.

## Attention Rugby Team Alumni!



As the fall season approaches, the Widener Law Rugby Football Club invites alumni to return for the team's 15th anniversary season. We encourage all former players to attend games and join us for the match. We are also planning a special anniversary tournament with returning players.

For more information, contact club president, Scott Wild, at [smwild@mail.widener.edu](mailto:smwild@mail.widener.edu) or coach Rafael X. Zahralddin-Aravena, Esq. at [Rzahralddin@morrisjames.com](mailto:Rzahralddin@morrisjames.com).

Include your name, e-mail address, telephone number, graduation year, and firm name. We are taking pre-orders for a 15th anniversary jersey.

## Widener Law Rugby Football Club

**Wayne E. Pinkstone** was named partner at Saul Ewing in their Princeton, NJ, office.

**Richard M. Sands, Jr.** married Justine M. Alves on July 2, 2005, in North Providence, RI. He is a self-employed attorney with offices in Warwick, RI.

**Beth (Glassman) Schulman** has been named director of human resources, compensation and benefits for Duff & Phelps LLC (formerly Standard & Poor's Corporate Value Consulting). Beth, who resides in Media, PA, and is married to David Schulman, is the proud mother of Nicole, 8, and Aaron, 2.

**Eileen C. Seaman** has been selected by the U.S. Treasury Department as the Connecticut Alternate Member of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP), an advisory group to the Internal Revenue Service. Eileen has her own practice in Greenwich, CT.

**Everette L. Scott, Jr.** was a debate panelist examining whether high school athletes should be tested for steroids in the state of New Jersey on the *Lynn Doyle Show*, which was televised in February.

**Douglas J. Steinhardt** has joined the Phillipsburg, NJ, office of Florio, Perrucci & Steinhardt as a partner. Steinhardt is also serving as mayor of Lopatcong and as chairman of the Warren County Republican Committee.

**Kimberly M. Thomas** joined Stampone D'Angelo Renzi DiPiero in Philadelphia as an associate. Kim concentrates her practice in personal injury, including automobile accidents, premises liability, product liability, and uninsured and underinsured motorist claims.



## 1995

**Kimberly Richardson Belongia** and her husband, Sto, welcomed a daughter, Addison Olivia in June 2005. Addison joins brother, Will. Kim is the owner of the Law Office of Kimberly R. Belongia and is a substitute judge for the 21st Judicial District Courts of Virginia.

**P. Kevin Brobson** was named to the "Lawyers on the Fast Track" list published by *The Legal Intelligencer* and *Pennsylvania Law Weekly* in September 2005. Brobson is a shareholder in the litigation section of Buchanan Ingersoll in Harrisburg and a member of the firm's insurance and reinsurance practice group.

**Steven L. Chung** has joined Shrager Spivey & Sachs in Philadelphia.

**Tania M. Culley** received the 2006 J. Thompson Brown Award by Children & Families First for her longtime community efforts to strengthen family life in Delaware.

**Lee R. Demosky** has been a partner with the Pittsburgh Law firm of Meyer, Darragh, Buckler, Bebenik & Eck, PLLC since 2002. He received the Young Lawyer of the Year award from the Westmoreland County Bar Association. He and his wife, Anne, have one daughter.

**Susan J. Gleason** and husband, Vincent, welcomed their son, Jackson, on November 2, 2004.

**Laurie Jefferys** married John Robert Grellman on October 19, 2005. Laurie retired from the financial industry in 2003 and travels with her husband.

**Beth A. Jones-Sheehan** married Christopher Sheehan in 1996 and is a member of the New Jersey State Advisory Center for the United States Commission on Civil Rights. They welcomed twin daughters in 2000.

**William M. Kelleher** of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll in Wilmington, DE, was recently named a recipient of the firm's annual pro bono award. Kelleher was honored for his pro bono work on both national and local matters, as well as for his service on the firm's pro bono committee.

**Timothy E. Possenti** and his wife Lauren Possenti welcomed their third child, a son, Lucas Christian, on October 13, 2005. Timothy and Lauren also enjoy their 7-year-old son, Timothy, and daughter, Payton, 4.

**Susan M. Purvin** was installed as the 2005-2006 Secretary of the Gloucester County Bar Association located in Woodbury, NJ.

# CLASS NOTES



**Yvonne T. Saville** recently became president elect of the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association.

## 1996

**Charles A. Bruder**, an associate with the Somerville, NJ, law firm Norris McLaughlin & Marcus PA, spoke about tax-exempt organizations in New Jersey last September for Lorman Education Services.

**Lee Diamondstein**, the regional vice president of Animation Technologies, participated as a speaker at Widener University School of Law's Super Technology Conference held in January.

**Brian J. Halsey** has been promoted to full professor in the business law and paralegal studies programs at Peirce College in Philadelphia. He was awarded Peirce's 2005 Hamilton Award at a presentation at Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, in which he was recognized by faculty and administration for his achievements. He continues to publish book reviews, revisions, and supporting manuals for several legal education publishers.

**Stephen R. Hoffman** has joined the Moore, Woodhouse & Pawlak Law Firm of Elmira, NY, as an associate attorney.

**Susan C. (Grawe) Mangold** has been named partner at Lamb McErlane, PC in West Chester, PA. She is a member of the firm's litigation department which represents municipalities, corporations, Fortune 500 companies in contract disputes, and other general civil litigation issues.



**Melissa A. Schwartz** has become a partner in the firm, Naulty Scaricamazza & McDevitt of Philadelphia.

**Patrick J. Sweeney** of Sweeney & Sheehan in Philadelphia has received the 2005 Community Service Award from the Defense Research Institute. The award honors a member of DRI whose unselfish activities in community and public service have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the improvement of social and/or cultural well-being of the general public.

## 1997

**Adam Apatoff** has opened Apatoff Peters, a Maryland firm designed to counsel businesses and individuals on technology, tax, corporate, and estate planning matters.

**Karin S. Baltimore** married Craig Connelly, October 9, 2004, in Wilkes-Barre. The couple resides in Blue Bell, PA.

**Van Barnette** has become a partner in the firm of Cranfill, Sumner and Hartzog, LLP in Raleigh, NC. He focuses his practice on defending matters in civil litigation.

**Suzanne S. Becker** has joined Nauman, Smith, Shissler & Hall LLP in Harrisburg, where she will practice tax, estate planning, and non-profit law. Previously, she had served as in-house counsel for The Nature Conservancy in Arlington, VA.

**Francis E. Farren** announces the formation of his new law practice, FARREN-LAW, Law Offices of Francis E. Farren, Esq., PA in Newark, DE, where he will concentrate on criminal defense.

**Michael Gorsen** was promoted to senior vice president of Bank of America's Private Bank. Gorsen is a wealth strategies advisor with the Private Bank and provides tax and estate planning advice to the Private Bank's high net-worth clients in Tampa, FL.

**Donald F. Kohler** is a partner with fellow classmate, Marc Lieberman, in their newly formed firm, Lieberman & Kohler LLP, which has an office in West Chester, PA. Also, Don has recently been elected to the board of directors of the Chester County Bar Association, and he sits as a member on the New Garden Township Zoning Hearing Board. Don and his wife Kim are the proud parents of two daughters, Meghan and Shannon.

**David Kotler** and **Danielle Corradino '01** welcomed their first son on August 11, 2005.

**John P. Morgenstern** has returned to the firm, Sweeney & Sheehan, after a three-year hiatus from private practice while serving in the U.S. Army as a captain in the JAG Corps. Morgenstern was stationed at the V Corps headquarters

in Heidelberg, Germany, and was deployed to Iraq and to Bosnia-Herzegovina. He will practice employment law in the firm's Philadelphia office.

**Ellen B. Wilber** joined Dickie McCamey & Chilcote as an associate in the insurance defense practice group.

**Justin B. Wineburgh** of Cozen O'Conner recently served as a panelist on four local university entertainment law panels, one of which was the Sports and Entertainment Law CLE Symposium: Sports, Music, Video Games & Film/TV held at Widener University School of Law.

## 1998

**Harry Balian** has been selected as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's new resident inspector at the Salem Generating Station in Lower Alloways Creek Township, NJ.

**Carol (Kurkalec) Benson** and **John Benson** along with big brother, Jack age 3, welcomed Carter Matthew on August 19, 2005. Carol is enjoying being a stay-at-home mom after 6 years of practicing domestic relations law. John, after five years with the Bucks County District Attorney's office, recently opened his own firm, Penglase, Wiley & Benson, in Doylestown, PA.

**Patricia L. Enerio** practices with the newly formed law firm Proctor Heyman LLP in Wilmington DE. The firm concentrates its practice in the areas of corporate and commercial litigation, mergers and acquisitions, stockholder class and derivative actions, and litigation involving limited liability companies and limited partnerships.

**Charlene A. Fravel** has joined the real estate division of the law firm of Kellam & Pettit, P.A. in Charlotte, NC. Fravel is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and North Carolina. She continues to practice in the areas of residential and commercial real estate, foreclosure, eviction, and also serves as a volunteer with the Charlotte chapter of the American Red Cross.

**Charles J. Giambrone** has joined Robert L. Brant & Associates in Trappe, PA. He will concentrate his practice in zoning and municipal law and civil litigation.

**Matthew R. Kessler** formerly with O'Brien & Ryan, LLP, Plymouth Meeting, PA, has formed the Law Offices of Matthew R. Kessler LLC, Douglassville, PA. Additionally, he was a member of a recent group of Widener University School of Law alumni to be admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court.



## 1999

**Caitlin L. Aviss** and Gavin B. McLaughlin have announced their engagement. Aviss works as a deputy attorney general for the State of New Jersey, employed with the Division of Law. The couple is planning a June 10 wedding in Princeton, NJ.

**Audrey L. Bath** has become editor of *Nevada Lawyer*, the State Bar of Nevada's official legal publication, after serving as director of bar services.

**Chase T. Brockstedt** has become a member of the firm, Murphy Spadaro & Landon in Wilmington, DE.

**William E. Chipman Jr.** joined the 500-attorney national law firm of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge in the firm's Wilmington, DE, office. He is a member of the finance department and creditors' rights, bankruptcy and insolvency practice group and focuses his practice on Chapter 11 proceedings.

**J. Paige Frampton**, an associate with the workers' compensation firm, Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson, participated in the Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar entitled "Social Security Law for Workers' Compensation Practitioners" in Philadelphia and Mechanicsburg, PA. She focuses her practice exclusively on Social Security Disability cases.

**Christopher M. Galusha** and Alyson Galusha proudly welcome the birth of their son, Christopher Michael, Jr. on December 28, 2004.

**Patrick J. Murphy** was the subject of a feature article in the December 2005 issue of *Super Lawyers*. The article, entitled "Between Iraq and a Hard Race" focused on Murphy's service in the Judge Advocate General Corps and his current run for Congress in the Pennsylvania Eighth District. Murphy served with the 82nd Airborne in Iraq and received a Bronze Star.

**John Patrick Rieder** has accepted a position as assistant professor of law at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO.

**Jason J. Valtos** has been named a principal of the firm Osborne Law Offices in Washington DC.

## 2000

**Robert K. Beste III** has become associated with Smith Katzenstein Furlow LLP, of Wilmington, DE.

**Alessandra Carrafiello** has joined Naulty, Scaricamazza, and McDevitt, Philadelphia, in the workers' compensation department.



**John C. Donch Jr.** has been elected as a shareholder at Volpe and Koenig, Philadelphia. He focuses his practice on assisting clients with securing, managing, and capitalizing on their intellectual property assets, especially in connection with the electrical arts of wireless communications, computers, computer software and electronics.

**Beatrice (May) Lemanowicz** and Richard Lemanowicz welcomed a daughter, Beatrice Margaret, on August 14, 2005. They reside in Lower Gwynedd, PA.

**Joseph P. Santoro** has joined the business services department of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP in Philadelphia.

**Raymond N. Scott** has joined the Wilmington, DE, office of Fish & Richardson where he prosecutes and litigates electrical, computer, mechanical, and medical device patents.

**William J. Skyrn** has been promoted to vice president, corporate and legal affairs from associate general counsel for the Bryn Mawr-based specialty finance company, J. G. Wentworth.

**Christina L. Warrick** was married to Sean Robert Geerlof on August 20, 2005 in Las Vegas. She is a patent attorney for the law firm of Hoffman and Barron. The couple will reside in Parsippany, NJ.

## 2001

**Susan Bellwoar Ayres** is an associate with Wright & O'Donnell, P.C. in Conshohocken, PA. She practices in the areas of insurance defense and litigation and insurance coverage. Susan lives in Chester County with her husband, Antony, and their two children, AJ and Lauren.

**Suzanne K. Collins** joined the litigation department of Archer & Greiner in Princeton, NJ. She will concentrate in medical and personal injury litigation.

**Timothy W. Davenport** has joined Fish & Richardson P.C., Wilmington, DE, in their Patent Prosecution Group.

**Joshua C. Dozor**, who served as a legislative assistant to Congressman Curt Weldon, and more recently as Counsel for the Committee on Homeland Security for the U.S. House of Representatives, has been appointed the Director of Preparedness Policy for the Homeland Security Council of the White House.

**Stephanie L. Hansen** has joined Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor in Wilmington, DE, as an associate in the firm's commercial real estate, banking, and land-use section.

# CLASS NOTES



## PA Super Lawyers

Congratulations to the Widener School of Law graduates who were named the top young lawyers in Pennsylvania by the publishers of *Law & Politics Magazine* and *Philadelphia Magazine*. Their names were published in *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars Edition 2005.

### Salvatore Anastasi '96

Barley Snyder

### Lisa Hunn Barber '93

Brandywine Realty Trust

### Carol Ann Benson '98

Law Offices of  
William L. Goldman

### Christine Fizzano Cannon '94

Rawle & Henderson

### Samuel H. Clark '98

Holsinger, Clark & Armstrong

### Jennifer E. Clark '05

DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary

### David G. Concannon '90

Law Offices of David G. Concannon

### Scott B. Cooper '93

Schmidt, Ronca & Kramer

### James R. Demmel '03

Smigel Anderson & Sacks

### Mathew R. DiClemente '01

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

### Carolyn M. Dillon '96

O'Brien & Ryan

### John P. Dogum '92

Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson

### Martin T. Durkin Jr. '92

Pietragallo Bosick & Gordon

### Jeffrey P. Edmunds '93

Carpenter & Edmunds

### James E. Elam IV '97

Elam Reavis

### Michael E. Ellery '99

Ryan, Brown, McDonnell,  
Berger & Gibbons

### Jennifer C. Etzrodt '93

Law Offices of Jennifer C. Etzrodt

### Risa Vetri Ferman '92

Montgomery County District  
Attorney's Office

### Corey Field '01

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

### Tracy Ann Finken '98

Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan,  
Feldman & Smalley

### Robert J. Foley Jr. '03

Foley, McLane, Foley,  
McDonald & MacGregor

### Regina M. Foley '92

Raynes McCarty

### J. Paige Frampton '99

Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson

### Christopher P. Gerber '95

Siana, Bellwoar & McAndrew

### Peter A. Gleason '95

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart  
Nicholson Graham

### James L. Griffith Jr. '97

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

### Salvatore R. Guerriero '97

Caesar Rivise Bernstein  
Cohen & Pokotilow

### Terry M. Henry '96

Cozen O' Connor

### Joel C. Hopkins '00

Saul Ewing

### David Marc Kaplan '99

Pepper Hamilton

### Dimitri L. Karapelou '95

Ciardi & Ciardi

### Thomas J. Kent Jr. '95

Siana, Bellwoar & McAndrew

### Christopher Konzelmann '90

White and Williams

### Ernest F. Koschineg III '98

Kent & McBride

### Daniel David Krebs '94

Marshall, Dennehey, Warner,  
Coleman & Goggin

### Paul A. Lefebvre '95

O'Brien & Ryan

### Ann V. Levin '93

Smigel, Anderson & Sacks

### John P. McBlain '92

Swartz Campbell

### Jeffrey W. McDonnell '94

Kent & McBride

### Edward B. McHugh '95

Goldstein, Friedberg,  
Goldstein & McHugh

### Jennifer L. Miller '94

Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll

### Donna M. Modestine '97

Marshall, Dennehey, Warner,  
Coleman & Goggin

### Patrick J. Murphy '99

Cozen O' Connor

### Sharon M. O'Donnell '96

Marshall Dennehey Warner  
Coleman & Goggin

### Brandon D. Richards '02

Montgomery, McCracken,  
Walker & Rhoads

### Jack A. Rosenbloom '97

Jacobs Law Group

### Heather D. Royer '95

Smigel, Anderson & Sacks

### Robert J. Sander '98

Montgomery County  
District Attorney's Office

### Edwin A.D. Schwartz '95

McKissock & Hoffman

### Marshall L. Schwartz '97

O'Brien & Ryan

### David J. Shannon '94

Marshall, Dennehey,  
Warner, Coleman & Goggin

### John D. Shea '94

Cozen O'Connor

### Patricia Carol Shea '96

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart  
Nicholson Graham

### John D. Sheridan '98

Serratelli, Schiffman, Brown & Calhoon

### Kevin M. Siegel '95

Dolchin, Slotkin & Todd

### Joseph B. Silverstein '94

Law Offices of Joseph B. Silverstein

### Craig Andrew Styer '90

Fox Rothschild

### Min S. Suh '95

Reed Smith

### Melissa A. Swauger '98

Shumaker Williams

### Patrick J. Sweeney '96

Sweeney & Sheehan

### Frank J. Tunis '99

Wright & Reihner

### Brian J. Tyler '96

Purcell, Krug & Haller

### Joseph Patrick Walsh '82

Palmer & Barr

### Melissa Murphy Weber '95

Elliot Greenleaf & Siedzikowski

### Sean T. Welby '92

Lightman & Welby

### Richard A. Wolfe '96

Saffren & Weinberg

### Thomas C. Zipfel '95

Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman

**Ashley Mancinelli** is currently working as the Director of Legal Services for Heartly House, Inc. She provides pro bono assistance in obtaining civil orders of protection and peace orders as well as representation in a limited number of divorce and custody cases. Heartly House is a non-profit organization in Frederick County, MD, which has been serving survivors of domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault for the past 25 years.

**Michael P. Migliore** has joined Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young as an associate in the Wilmington, DE, office's business department.

**Daniel E. Stambaugh** has been named a legislative liaison for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. He is a veteran staffer in the Pennsylvania General Assembly and has worked for several senators.

## 2002

**Teri Calloway** and Matt Calloway welcomed a daughter, Keely Clarke Calloway, on April 11, 2005.

**Gregory O. Girdy** has joined Darwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer Toddy as an associate in the insurance defense department in Philadelphia.

**Jason Samuel Jabers** is engaged to Kara Ellen Naegeli of Olyphant, PA. A wedding is planned for August 26, 2006.

**Tanya P. Jefferis** has joined McCarter & English LLP as an associate in the firm's Wilmington, DE, office. Tanya's practice focuses on toxic torts and products liability litigation.

**Christopher L. Kenny** has joined the board of directors of KINfolk, a Delaware nonprofit that operates a laptop computer lending program for seriously ill and injured children. Kenny is general counsel and director of human resources at The Kenny Family ShopRites of Delaware.

**Michael J. Lento** has joined Daniel J. Graziano & Associates in Trenton, NJ.

**Eric J. Monzo** has joined the construction law firm Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman in Philadelphia as an associate.

**Lisa Maria Riether** and **Matthew Warren Ritter** of Bridgeton, NJ, have announced their engagement. She works as deputy attorney general for the State of New Jersey, and he is an attorney at Ritter Law Office. A November 5, 2006, wedding is planned.

## 2003

**George A. Bibikos** has joined Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP in Harrisburg and concentrates his practice in civil and commercial litigation.

**Joseph B. Cicero** was named an associate in the litigation department at the 500-attorney national law firm of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge in the firm's Wilmington, DE office.

**Danielle DiAmbrosio** has joined the firm, Naulty Scaricamazza & McDevitt in Philadelphia. She will concentrate her practice in general insurance defense.

**Todd W. Gilpin** has joined O'Brien & Ryan of Plymouth Meeting, PA.

**Chilton G. Goebel III** joined Lavin, O'Neil, Ricci, Cedrone & DiSipio as an associate in Philadelphia.

**Mary T. Kranzfelder** has joined Lavin O'Neil Ricci Cedrone & DiSipio as an associate in Philadelphia.

**Jennifer Mendelsohn** has joined the firm of Guston & Guston LLP in Glen Rock, NJ, as an associate. Her practice focuses on real estate transactional law, as well as municipal court practice, adoption law, estate planning, and general litigation.

**Megan Marie Rush** married **Eric David Walstrom '02** on November 6, 2004, in Wilmington, DE. She is an attorney with the Wilmington, DE, law firm, Rahaim & Saints. Eric practices with Reger Rizzo Kavulich & Darnall in Mt. Laurel, NJ.

**Tarah D. Verwey** was married to Alan C. Probst on May 6, 2005, at Lake Bomoseen, VT. She is the owner of Multi-Media Advertising Solutions Inc. in Kingston, PA.

# CLASS NOTES



## 2004

**Robert F. Casey** joined Szaferman Lakind in Lawrenceville, NJ, as an associate who concentrates his practice in civil litigation and labor law.

**Amy L. Groff** welcomed a baby girl in December 2005. Amy is employed by Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham, LLP in Harrisburg.

**Mary Thien Hoang** has finished her clerkship with the Honorable Raymond A. Batten, Superior Court of New Jersey, Cape May, and has taken a job with the Federal Maritime Commission in Washington, DC.

**Jody J. Huber** has recently been promoted to director of pro se services for the Family Court of Delaware. She also was selected to give the new attorney's address at the Delaware Bar Admission Ceremony.

**Christopher A. Iacono** has joined Miller Alfano & Raspanti in Philadelphia.

**Victor R. Jackson** has opened his own law practice in Elkton, MD. He serves all of Maryland and practices criminal, civil, family, and medical negligence law.

**Robert C. Kay** was named hospital compliance officer in May 2005 for Hahnemann University Hospital.

**Daniel C. Munce** was admitted to practice in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and worked as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Linda R. Feinberg, A.J.S.C., Superior Court of New Jersey from September 2004 to August 2005. He works as a deputy attorney general with the Office of Attorney General, State of New Jersey, Division of Law, Treasury Section.

**Nancy L. Sopko** has joined Legal Services of Northwest Jersey.

**S. Halle Vakani** has joined Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton LLP in Raleigh, NC, and will concentrate in securities and corporate law.

## 2005

**Frederick J. Arensmeyer** has joined the Hawaii State Judiciary in Honolulu and is practicing family law.

**Megan A. Broomall** married Joel Filliben on September 3, 2005 in Wilmington, DE. She is an attorney with The Trident Group.

**Ayesha S. Chacko** married Blake Adam Bennett in Greenville, DE, on October 16, 2004.

**Ehsan F. Chowdhry** married Lubna Qazi on August 6, 2005.

**Michael J. Dennin** is an associate at Vincent J. Ciecka Law Offices in Pennsauken, NJ, practicing in the areas of personal injury and workers' compensation.

**Sharon M. Glanzmann** has joined O'Brien & Ryan of Plymouth Meeting, PA.

**Adam J. Noah** has been promoted to counsel to the House Small Business Committee for the U.S. House of Representatives.

**Nicholas M. Orloff** has joined Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young LLP as an associate in the firm's litigation department in Philadelphia.

**Anthony Rohach** has been promoted to assistant to the director of the MBA program for Delaware Valley College in Doylestown, PA. He has served on the DelVal faculty for 13 years in both a full- and part-time capacity. In February he was promoted to associate professor status and earned tenure.

## In Memoriam

1975 **Thomas H. Gallagher**

1977 **Stephen A. White**

1983 **John S. Delaney**

1985 **Charles F. Wetherell**

1986 **Michael J. Goggins**

1990 **Laurence J. Adams, MD**

1990 **Mariclare M.  
Weinert-Barbin**

1993 **Robert D. Hamilton**

1993 **Steven K. Steinmetz**

1997 **Agnes J. Ford**