

# Nassau Lawyer



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## OF NOTE

### NCBA COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR

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### ON ETHICS

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## SAVE THE DATES

### WE CARE

#### Children's Festival

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

At Domus

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### NASSAU ACADEMY OF LAW

#### Bridge the Gap

Saturday & Sunday, March 4-5, 2017

At Domus

See pg 14

### WE CARE

#### Jekyll & Hyde The Musical

Engeman Theatre at Northport

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Details pg 16

### NASSAU ACADEMY OF LAW

Hon. Elaine Jackson Stack

### MOOT COURT COMPETITION

March 21 & 22, 2017 at Domus

### WE CARE

#### Dressed to a Tea

Thursday, March 30, 2017

At Domus

See insert in this paper for details and registration

### CINCO de MAYO CELEBRATION

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Cooking demo, taco bar, margaritas and more!

Details coming soon

### 118th Annual NCBA Dinner Dance

Saturday, May 13, 2017

Invitations mailed in March

See pg 6

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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THE WHISTLER by John Grisham **Page 17**

## UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Thursday, March 9, 2017 12:45 p.m. at Domus

## 2017 NCBA Distinguished Service Medallion Recipient

Grace Davey Moran will be honored as the seventy-fourth recipient of the Association's Distinguished Service Medallion, to be presented at the One Hundred and Eighteenth Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, May 13, 2017. The Distinguished Service Medallion, the Nassau County Bar Association's highest honor, is awarded to an individual, either attorney or non-attorney, for service which has enhanced the reputation and dignity of the legal profession.

Ms. Moran is a graduate of Fordham University and Saint John's University School of Law. Admitted to practice in 1979, Ms. Moran was immediately hired as assistant counsel for the New York State Grievance Committee 10th Judicial District. In this position, Ms. Moran served a distinguished 22-year career in public service and retired as the Committee's first woman Chief Counsel.

In 2001, Grace joined her daughter Siobhan as a partner in Moran Kar-amouzis LLP, where she concentrates her practice in the areas of professional discipline defense cases and commercial litigation matters. She has lectured extensively on various topics before



Grace D. Moran, Esq.

numerous organizations including the American Bar Association, the National Conference of Bar Leaders, the New York State Bar Association and the

### The Dinner Dance Journal

The commemorative Dinner Dance Journal, with bios of the evening's honorees, is a treasured keepsake for the honored guests. It not only lists all the Dinner Dance Sponsors and supporters of the evening, but includes thoughtful Journal ads from family, friends, law firms and businesses offering congratulatory messages for the honorees milestone achievements.

Pay tribute to the honored guests and the Bar Association by placing an ad in the Dinner Dance Journal. For details on how to be a Sponsor of the Dinner Dance or take an ad in the Journal see page 11 in this paper or contact Special Events at (516)747-4070 or events@nassaubar.org

NCBA and SCBA Academy's of Law, just to name a few.

Ms. Moran is a Past President, and notably the first woman President, of this Association. Throughout her career she has been listed in Best Lawyers in New York City, Super Lawyers and

See MEDALLION, Page 18

## Develop Your Business Through NCBA's Lawyer Referral Service

*Let NCBA Bring Potential New Clients To You!*

By Valerie Zurblis

Developing new business is critical for the success of any law practice. Although it is a top priority, in many cases attorneys are too busy with legal matters and do not have the time or large budget to dedicate to marketing. However, smart attorneys know that NCBA can provide this business development marketing for them through the Lawyer Referral Information Service (LRIS), where members can receive names of potential new clients looking for help in their area of practice.

"Our Lawyer Referral Service is our biggest secret to success available through the Bar," said LRIS Past Chair Greg Lisi. "Many people contact the Bar

Enrollment for 2017 is now open to any member who would like to participate. Just call the Bar, (516)747-4070, and let LRIS begin to work for you today.

Association looking for lawyers. We are known as the source for qualified member attorneys who can help them. We serve as the conduit to gather those in need of legal services and forward them to our members."NCBA's Lawyer Referral Service works like this: Attorneys join LRIS, available exclusively for members.

See REFERRAL, Page 18

## NCBA DOMUS OPEN



Monday  
June 19, 2017  
Eisenhower  
"The Red"

Details coming soon!

## CONFIDENTIAL HELP IS AVAILABLE TO LAWYERS AND JUDGES

alcohol or drug use, depression or  
other mental health problems  
Call Lawyer Assistance Program

1-888-408-6222





# NYSBA House of Delegates

## Quarterly Report

By Peter H. Levy

Just as one New Yorker left for Washington, DC, the world (or at least 5,000 New York attorneys) descended on Manhattan for the 140th Annual Meeting of the New York State Bar Association. After all the Sections and Committees met and tens of thousands of hours of CLE were awarded, the House of Delegates met on Friday, January 27th. As your 10th District Vice President, this is my report.

We first heard the presentation of the New York Bar Foundation. In 2016, alone, the Foundation awarded grants to 99 nonprofit programs in New York State. These awards totaled more than \$580,000.00. As was reported by the President of the Foundation, Suffolk's own John H. Gross, Esq., many of the organizations funded by the Foundation provided essential legal services to low-income individuals. As you will see later on in this Report, this need is crucial at this time. Another leader of the Foundation is the Chair of the Fellows, Emily Franchina, Esq. Both of these Favorite Sons and Daughters of the 10th District have been instrumental in leading the Foundation to its lofty height in the charitable world.

The House heard from the Hon. Janet DiFiore, Chief Judge of the State of New York. It is an annual tradition for the Chief Judge to address the Delegates at their January meeting. The Judge outlined the goals for the Judiciary in 2017. She stated "what is good for the Courts is good for lawyers and their clients." The Chief Judge went



on to discuss the progress that is being made in decreasing delays and backlogs and the expansion of E-filing. She closed with a message of collaboration and cooperation.

The Chief Judge was presented with the Ruth G. Schapiro Award. This honor is annually bestowed upon a NYSBA member who has made noteworthy contributions to the concerns of women.

A fascinating Report was given by Henry Greenberg, Esq. of Albany concerning the NYS Constitutional Convention. As you are aware, every ten years, New Yorkers are asked to vote on whether we should have a Constitutional Convention. Mr. Greenberg was appointed as Chair of the NYSBA Committee on the Convention. Over the past 18 months, this Committee has

issued four reports on possible areas of concern that such a Convention would debate. The last of these reports concerned the Judiciary Article of the NYS Constitution. I urge everyone to log onto the NYSBA web site to read this report and the prior three. The Report was approved by the House and the Committee was given one last assignment – to make a recommendation as to whether the NYSBA should ask the electorate to support the referendum in November and have a Constitutional Convention.

President Claire Gutekunst, Esq. gave her Report to the House. She began with the fact that the Governor has called for a \$50.00 increase in the attorney registration fee to offset the costs of providing indigent legal services to those accused of a crime. She

made it clear that while the NYSBA supports increases in funding for all legal services, this is a cost that society has a whole must bear and should not be placed on the backs and pockets of lawyers. The President outlined the many steps the NYSBA is taking to fight this proposed increase in the registration fee.

The President also discussed the Bar's 2017 legislative agendas on both the State and Federal levels. These include making sure the federal government continues to fund the Legal Services Corporation and urging NYS to find the resources to continue to fund the foreclosure prevention projects that many bar associations, including Nassau and Suffolk, have provided for the last five years.

The final item that was presented to the House of Delegates concerned the recommendation to allocate one hour of the mandatory CLE requirements to issues of diversity and inclusion. Both the Suffolk and Nassau Bars issued reports on this subject. After lengthy debate, the recommendation was approved by the House. The final decision on this subject rests with the State CLE Board.

I have just highlighted some of the issues that were presented to your delegations to the NYSBA. If you have any questions or concerns in regard to these issues or others involving the New York State Bar Association – I can be reached at (516) 822-5800 or phlaty.1@juno.com. Thank you for your Bar Association membership and your support of the profession.

## REFERRAL ...

Continued From Page 1

NCBA promotes LRIS to the public through advertising, at public events and clinics, and at the court houses. Other organizations, libraries and other community and business groups are also notified. People who need to hire an attorney call LRIS and are referred three attorneys who are able to help the client's matter. Attorneys are referred on a computerized rotating basis according to areas of concentration and geographic location. The client then sets up a half hour consultation with each attorney, who may charge up to \$50 for this initial consultation. If the attorney takes the case, the fee structure is determined between the attorney and the client.

"In effect, we are generating new income for our members, new income to support the Bar Association, and providing a valuable service for the public to obtain qualified attorneys they have confidence in," said current LRIS Chair Jonathan Klee.

Three years ago, the LRIS model was revised to add a participation based referral service, reflecting the model used by the majority of bar associations across the country. NCBA receives 10% of the aggregate fee generated from the referred matter, after the first \$1,000.00 collected. Initially the number of attorneys on the panels decreased, but now the

program is catching its footing .

Many of the cases referred from three years ago are coming to fruition. This year NCBA collected around \$60,000.00 in participation fees, which equates to approximately \$600,000.00 in total legal fees generated on cases obtained through NCBA/LRIS membership.

"This is only our third year," Klee emphasized. "As the program continues to develop, we expect the income to the bar, and to our members, will go up accordingly as older cases work their way to settlement."

The cost to join the panels has not changed, starting at \$250 for the year. Some specific panels have additional fees. As an added service to the community, LRIS provides two special panels with no extra fees. The Deferred/Reduced Fee Matrimonial Panel provides legal services for clients who pay \$1500.00 for 10 hours, then \$150.00 per hour thereafter. The Prisoners' Rights Panel matters are handled on a contingency basis.

"We want the public to realize that NCBA is their source for legal information and service on Long Island. If they need to hire a good lawyer, just give us a call," said Lisi.

Klee added, "Our members get new clients, the clients hire qualified NCBA member lawyers they can trust, and the Bar benefits with new non-dues revenue. It's a simple formula that works."

13, 2017. In addition to the Distinguished Service Medallion recipient, those of our members who have been admitted to the Bar for fifty, sixty and seventy years will be honored as well. We hope you will join our celebration when we pay tribute to all our honorees. INVITATIONS FOR THE DINNER DANCE WILL BE MAILED IN MARCH.

For more information contact Special Events at (516) 747-4070 or email events@nassaubar.org.

## MEDALLION ...

Continued From Page 1

Women in the Law.

The Annual Dinner Dance is the crowning event of the "social calendar" of the Nassau County Bar Association and will be held at the Long Island Marriott, Uniondale, New York, on Saturday, May

## Toast to Domus

*The Toast to Domus is a continuing column that highlights the thoughtful words of NCBA members as they pay tribute to Domus, the home of the Association.*

2017, a new year beginning,  
And eighty six years for Domus, our building.  
And what of this place, the events that it's hosted.  
What is it that's here, and why do we toast it?  
It's the place where we gather, a place to belong,  
And with Simons and Ryan, sometimes even a song.  
Here there's service and learning, pro bono, We Care,  
Spirited discussions, decisions, a need to be fair.  
It's where bench and bar meet, where lawyers break bread.  
It's where friendships are made, where kind words are said.  
It's the people, of course, the past and the present,  
And the future before us, that make this home pleasant.  
May the new year bring all good health and good cheer,  
And continued success for what happens right here.  
No, not just bricks and mortar, thus,  
And so we make our toast, to Domus.

~ Kevin Mulry  
Board of Directors Meeting January 10, 2017