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Sabrina Charles-Pierre,
Editor

ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

NEWSBRIEF

www.rocklandbar.org

April 2020

President's Post

Hello Everyone,

As I sit down to write this month's President's Post, I sit at my keyboard with tremendous trepidation and uncertainty. It seems as if the world has turned upside down and I cannot wake up from this very bad dream. However, our responsibilities, unfortunately, do not allow us to pull the covers up over our heads and wait until the bad news passes. These are unprecedented times which call upon us all to have unprecedented resolve.

We have responsibilities to our profession, clients, and ourselves, which we cannot abandon. The temporary closing down of our businesses and practices have shockwaves that ripple through our community; the economic effects to our livelihoods, our staffs, and our vendors are unthinkable. That is why the Rockland County Bar Association is working diligently with the Courts to come up with innovative ideas to get us up and running.

Over the next few weeks the New York State Court System will be rolling out virtual courts. These virtual courts will be limited to criminal and family court matters. For the Criminal Courts, it will primarily involve arraignments and prisoner releases, and for the Family Courts, matters requiring immediate action will be heard. In my estimation however, that still leaves 99% of the practice of law in very uncertain waters.

One of the most difficult things to be doing right now is trying to say in contact with our clients. So, we must do what we can, working from home, to keep the lines of communication open with our clients and work to help our clients navigate this situation. While we may not have all the answers they are all looking for, primarily they look to us for hope, and we must provide that to them. I have no doubt that this crisis will end, and, in the meantime, we must remain professionals and stay upbeat.

Each day I have been making the habit of watching Governor Cuomo's daily address, and politics aside, while I listen to the information, tough facts, and statistics he relays to us I am inspired by his resolve and optimistic determination in these scary times. To borrow from his sentiments, I want to remind each of us that this time will pass, and we WILL return to normalcy. We have to take this forced time home with family and turn it into a positive. Take a breath and share some quality time with each other, time that we are so often craving and do not find the time for in our harried lives. Enjoy a walk outdoors, possibly read a good book. Be kind to one another and thank all those essential workers on the front lines every chance we get! As the Governor reminds us, we are New Yorkers, and being a New Yorker gives us the unique ability to come through even the darkest of times and be better off on the opposite side. So, keep the faith!

As information becomes available, the Bar will work diligently to make sure that each one of you is fully informed. From the bottom of my heart I wish you and your families good health.

Respectfully,
Keith

Rockland Bar Cares
by Robert L. Pitkofsky, Esq.

As attorneys, we are problem solvers. We are advocates. We are mediators and counselors. We are responsible for ensuring that the firm's bills are paid and that our obligations to the court and clients are resolved. All of us understand that our profession causes high levels of stress which can cause mental illness that can take us away from functioning effectively as practitioners, community members, and spouses/significant others/parents. According to the 2016 Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation and the American Bar Association Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs, it is "report[ed] that 21 percent of licensed, employed attorneys qualify as problem drinkers, 28 percent struggle with some level of depression and 19 percent demonstrate symptoms of anxiety."

And then came the coronavirus pandemic.

The demands at home and on the professional front became exponentially more difficult over the past few weeks. In Rockland County, a large majority of practitioners practice in solo and small law firms. Many of us rely upon the court system to keep our doors open and our clients' matters proceeding. However, almost in an instant, the world changed. It is important to understand the impact that these changes in our business model, and interaction with one another, have to our mental health and wellness. As with everyone in our community, we know of loved ones who are sick and isolated, and friends who have lost their jobs. We understand what you are going through – because we are you.

Your Rockland Bar is there for you, every step of the way, as all of us manage through this crisis so we can continue to serve our clients and community.

Under the leadership of our president, Keith Braunfotel, and our hard-working board of directors, we have established the Rockland Bar Cares initiative. Our mission is to support our membership so that we can better service our clients, our families, and our community. We intend to execute our mission in three primary ways: communication, mental health support (lawyers helping lawyers), and business advice.

The Bar Association is sending out regular communication from our offices about the changing conditions in our Unified Court System. We know that these are changing times, and we understand that our clients are anxious, now more than ever, to understand the nature of their action and what impact this coronavirus pandemic will have on their individual matters. We are working with our committee chairs to call video conference calls to discuss how to implement conference meetings for their members to exchange support and practical tips on how to maneuver through this rocky landscape. Further, our Rockland Bar Cares resources and links to relevant materials will be available on the [Bar Association's website](#).

Please know that you are not alone in feeling anxious, scared, and unsure of the future. We encourage you to reach out to the New York State Office of Mental Health's hotline (844-863-9314) if you are suffering from symptoms of anxiety and depression. As a Bar Association, we intend to work with mental health organizations throughout the County to provide information from trained mental health experts on the challenges of coping with rapidly changing environments. If you have thoughts or suggestions about who would be informative to our fellow members on this important and often overlooked topic, please let us know.

Our Bar Association members are part of our community. We serve on charity boards of directors, coach sports teams, and provide guidance to families within our schools. However, we understand that many of our community members are struggling with food insecurity. The Rockland Bar is making a commitment to collect food products and monetary donations to benefit People to People (845-623-4900) and Meals on Wheels of Rockland (845-624-6325). We urge you to visit www.peopletopeopleinc.org and www.mowrockland.org and make a contribution. You can drop off nonperishable food at Braunfotel & Frendel (49 Maple Avenue, New City). Further, if you are able, we encourage you to volunteer your time to help pack food or deliver meals to a home bound senior – and please mention that you are a proud member of the Rockland Bar. These agencies are employing strict health precautions for their volunteers, and I know that they are short staffed as a result of the Governor's stay at home orders.

All of us at the Rockland County Bar Association understand that the challenges that the legal profession face are daunting. We also understand that we are a caring legal community who wants to be strong for our families and for our clients. One of our Rockland County Bar Association board members, Laura Catina, Esq., is a health and wellness coach and has opened a virtual gym for our members' use. You can contact her at lauracatina@catinalawpllc.com and visit the Rockland Bar Cares website for more information. It is important that we are taking care of ourselves through daily walks, exercise, and healthy eating in order to be in our peak condition to handle the stress and anxiety that this pandemic causes and will cause us.

As always, please feel free to call us at the Bar Association with any questions or concerns that you have. We look forward to expanding on these offerings as the days and weeks progress, so please be sure to keep an eye on your e-mails for updates and opportunities to serve.

Thank you for doing your part in demonstrating that the Rockland Bar Cares.

Rockland Bar CARES.

COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS.

*Introducing a new online resource
for Members of the Rockland County Bar Association:*

GO TO OUR RCBA WEBSITE AT:

WWW.ROCKLANDBAR.ORG

COMING SOON:

**WELLNESS TIPS
MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY TIPS
COMMUNITY UPDATES
COURT UPDATES
*and more!***

How To Quickly Shift To A Work-From-Home Business Model To Maximize Productivity In Today's Coronavirus Environment

Posted by meetingtreecomputer On March 26, 2020 - Meeting Tree provides IT support to the Bar Association

As a business owner today, you are now facing unprecedented challenges to help deal with the coronavirus pandemic. You are asked to self-isolate and practice social distancing to “flatten the curve.” You are asked to allow your employees to work from home to reduce possible exposure and slow the spread of COVID-19.

These are all reasonable requests. However, as a business owner you also need to maximize productivity, bring in revenue and try to grow your business in these demanding times. How can you accomplish these goals when your office is now a ghost town and productivity has fallen off a cliff?

The answer lies in setting up your office to function remotely. If you've never implemented a work-from-home policy before, it may seem like a whole different world. Managing an entirely remote workforce goes far beyond giving your employees a laptop and reminding them to check in every once in a while. After all, there are many factors most business owners haven't ever had to consider, such as:

- What technologies do I need?
- How can my employees work from home without compromising the security of our network?
- How can I make this new work environment as easy, comfortable and productive as possible?

We understand these are unique times. We know that “business as usual” is going to be quite different for an undetermined amount of time. But together we can help you adjust to today's new normal by giving you the tools, technologies and insights to create a secure and productive work-from-home business environment. Here are three important considerations to getting you set up and running a successful work-from-home business:

1. Don't allow employees to use home computers or devices. Their mindset may be, “Well, I'm working from home so I may as well use my home computer.” This is a dangerous mistake. Our team works hard to ensure your company computers and network are secure and protected from malware, viruses and cyber-attacks. Their home computers and devices could be littered with tons of downloaded music, videos, images and more. Because it's more exposed, it can invite malware into your network. Rather, provide a company-approved and secured computer/laptop for employees to use at home.

2. Secure their WiFi access point. Without a secure WiFi access point, you're essentially leaving a back door open to hackers. That's because WiFi signals are often broadcast far beyond your employees' homes and out into streets. Yes, drive-by hacking is popular among cybercriminals today. A few tips for securing your employees' WiFi access points:

- Use stronger encryption and a more complex password
- Hide your network name
- Use a firewall

These security measures are not difficult to set up. But if you have any questions or need assistance, we will be happy to help get your employees set up remotely.

3. Use a two-factor authentication VPN. VPN stands for virtual private network. It's essentially a private, encrypted tunnel that goes direct to your IT network in your office. Ideally, you'll want your VPN to support two-factor authentication. This means it's doubly secure because your employees will need to call in to access the network. If you don't have a VPN for your employees to use, you can consider other services, such as GoToMyPC or Zoho. While these products are not as secure, at least they keep your home network from being exposed.

As business owners ourselves, we too are having to pivot and work differently than we ever have before. However, because we have the technology and infrastructure in place, we are still surprisingly productive.

Our team wants to help your business survive and thrive during today's unique environment. If you and your IT team need extra hands right now...or solutions to help your employees work SECURELY from home...we have software tools, expert staff and resources we'd like to offer you to keep your business as productive as possible.

Contact us at info@meetingtreecomputer.com if you wish to book a quick 10 to 15-minute call to discuss. Please know that this is not a sales call but simply an outreach to help a fellow CEO stay afloat



PAUL PIPERATO
County Clerk

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
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E-Mail: rocklandcountyclerk@co.rockland.ny.us
Website: rocklandcountyclerk.com

Deputy County Clerks
Donna Silberman
Jamie Graham
Joseph Alongi

ADDITIONAL RECORDING FEE

EFFECTIVE MARCH 11, 2020

Effective March 11, 2020 there will be a \$10 fee added to all residential deed recordings.

On December 12, 2019 Governor Cuomo signed into law an amendment to Real Property Law Section 291 that requires County Clerks to notify the owner(s) of record of residential real property when a document is recorded affecting said residential property. The law also allows a reasonable fee to be assessed for said notices.

The NYS Association of County Clerks, in order to provide uniformity throughout NYS, has determined that \$10 is a reasonable fee per document.

This fee will apply to property class codes 200-299, 411-C and 411-D on the RP 5217 form. For information on property class codes go to:

<https://www.tax.ny.gov/research/property/assess/manuals/prclas.htm#residential>

In Rockland County, this fee will apply to residential deed documents **executed** on or after March 11, 2020 and received over the counter or through the mail (USPS, FedEx, UPS etc.)

For deed documents that are recorded electronically (e-Recording), the fee will apply to those documents **submitted** on or after March 11, 2020. This fee does not apply to commercial transactions.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ISSUES OF INTEREST**Submitted by Joseph Churgin, Esq. and Susan Cooper, Esq.***

After your client's former beau had been living with your client and her children in a domestic relationship for several years, they agreed that he would pay her 80% of his net income in return for her paying for his relocation to Florida for a job, and paying for him to rent an apartment for a year. At the time the agreement was made, your client did not know that her beau was engaged to a woman in Florida and had a prior criminal conviction for fraud. Your client sued in the District Court for breach of contract and fraud when she realized that he was hiding his true income and was paying less than 80% of his net income. Your client's law suit was dismissed as being a claim for palimony, which is not recognized in New York.

Will you prevail on your appeal, which argues that your client has viable claims for breach of contract and fraud?

The answer is "yes."

In *Sheinker v. Quick Jr.*, 2018-2374 SC, 2020 N.Y. Slip Op. 20049, 2020 WL 913062, at *1, (App. Term. 2d Dep't, 9th & 10th Jud. Districts, Feb. 6, 2020), Sheinker sued Quick for \$15,000 (the jurisdictional limit of the District Court) for breach of contract and fraudulent concealment or fraud in the inducement. She alleged that Quick lived with her and her two children for several years in New York in a domestic relationship, until Quick received an offer of employment in Florida. They agreed that Sheinker would pay for Quick's relocation to Florida and for his apartment for a year. If the job worked out, Scheinker expected to join Quick with her children and make Florida their primary residence.

Sheinker alleged that after receiving payments for a period of time, she learned that Quick was concealing a portion of his earnings, and paying less than the amount he owed. She also learned that Quick was engaged to a woman in Florida before the agreement was reached, and that Quick had a prior criminal conviction and a civil judgment for fraud. She sought damages of \$15,000, the jurisdictional limit of the District Court, although he owed her more.

Continued. - COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ISSUES OF INTEREST

Submitted by Joseph Churgin, Esq. and Susan Cooper, Esq.*

Quick denied the allegations and, after discovery, moved for summary judgment dismissing the complaint. He argued that there was no viable claim for relief, and that the claim of fraud was impermissibly duplicative of the breach of contract claim. The District Court dismissed the action on a *sua sponte* finding that the claim constituted an unenforceable action for palimony.

The Appellate Term reversed. The Court explained that although the relationship of an unmarried couple living together does not support an *implied* contract concerning earnings and assets (a claim for “palimony”), an *express* contract of such a couple is enforceable, citing *Marone v. Marone*, 50 N.Y.2d 481, 484 (1980). Moreover, the claim that the parties were in a confidential relationship when they entered the contract allows the inference of a duty to disclose material information. The allegation that Quick concealed that he was engaged to another woman and had a prior history of financial fraud, which served as an inducement, properly alleged a claim for fraudulent inducement separate from breach of contract, citing *Greenberg v. Meyreles*, 155 A.D.3d 1001, 1003 (2d Dep’t 2017). Since Quick had not produced evidence to eliminate any material issues of fact, the dismissal of Sheinker’s action was reversed.

The lesson? Although courts will not imply a contract between an unmarried couple living together concerning their income and assets, an express contract concerning the income or assets of an unmarried couple living together is enforceable.



Rockland Bar CARES.

COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS.

TECHNOLOGY TIPS FOR ATTORNEYS
submitted by
Michael Loewenberg*
Meeting Software for Remote Workers

With almost all of us working at home, using software to hold virtual meetings is becoming, for now, the new normal. Let's look at some popular meeting software that you can use quickly and easily and at no or low cost. Read to the end for an additional option!

The four software packages I looked at are Microsoft Teams, GoToMeeting, Zoom, and Freeconferencecall.com. All have host features that allow you to record calls, share screens, have text chats while in the meeting and more. After each call, a report is emailed showing who was in and for how long. For the basic functions as a meeting attendee, all you need to do is dial in.

TLDR; freeconferencecall.com is free, easy to set up and can be ready to go in minutes. For simplicity, price and effectiveness, it might be all you need.

Some more detail:

Microsoft Teams – Microsoft Teams can be used as an app installed on your computer or phone or as a web-based tool, used in a browser (Edge or Chrome only). Teams is not quite ready for prime time and it shows. It seems like it could work for an online meeting tool because the cameras work and audio can work as well, complementing its chat function. As the pandemic took hold in mid-March, technology forums showed that many Teams users were frustrated because the software was not reliable. Users could not hear others in the meeting, they were tossed out of meetings, they had to reboot the software, etc. Additionally, Teams still doesn't allow you to see all the people in the meeting; right now, you can see only 4 others at a time and that's frustrating. Since reliability and stability is important, Microsoft Teams isn't my first choice.

GoToMeeting – Logmein, the makers of GoToMeeting, has been promoting an "emergency remote kit" at no charge. I've used GoToMeeting in the past and it's a powerful, useful tool. I called LogMeIn because I'm a client and learned that the promotion is only good for schools, not for profits, church organizations, etc. and not for businesses. While GoToMeeting is excellent, it is not free: the monthly cost is \$12/month, billed at \$144 per year.

Zoom – Zoom is a decent choice. They have robust function and it works on the web and in an app on a computer, iPhone and Android. (FYI ChromeBooks are Androids). The biggest issue with the free version of Zoom is that meetings are limited to 40 minutes and that is an unreasonable, limiting gate when online meetings often go longer. The paid version without the meeting limit is \$15/month, \$180 per year for a single host license.

Freeconferencecall.com – as the name says, it's a free conference call solution that happens to work great. I have been using freeconferencecall.com for years (literally) and it has been reliable, robust and free. I use it all the time to share my screen with my clients and the participants in the call are free to use their cameras or not. The call-in meeting function is available anytime and it doesn't need a meeting host for it to work. For example, if a few of employees say "let's meet in the conference bridge at 1p," they can connect to the conference bridge at 1p and they'll automatically be in the conference bridge to talk. It's always available, 24/7. You can set up a hosted online meeting with an invitation that can include a link to share your computer screen. A regular, start of day meeting, for example, is easy to do.

To access the conference bridge, you can (1) call the dedicated phone number from any phone and access the conference (2) use the freeconferencecall.com app on a PC to connect (3) use the freeconferencecall.com app on an iPhone or android (4) use the freeconferencecall.com app on a Chromebook (5) use the browser-based interface.

Freeconferencecall.com, like many meeting software vendors, had performance issues with the surge of remote workers. It seems to have gotten better and more reliable this week and using it is still a reasonable choice.

Here's your bonus tip, as promised: Skype can also be used to set up a conference call meeting and you don't need the Skype app to attend. If you have the Skype app on your device, you can click the 'Meet Now' button to start a meeting – but you don't need the app to do that. You can go to skype.com, select 'Create your meeting' in the Meet Now on Skype! Section of the homepage and follow the prompts to start your own conference call. You can set it up right in the browser without downloading anything. Skype gives you a link you can share with your colleagues, friends and family and you can see and hear everyone who gives permission to share their camera and microphone.

Stay safe and healthy!

*Michael Loewenberg is the President of MESH Business Solutions, Inc., New City, NY, 10956 and he is also an Affiliate Member of the RCBA.

THE PRACTICE PAGE**Hon. Mark C. Dillon *****DAYS WHEN SERVING PROCESS IS FORBIDDEN**

General Business Law 11 instructs that service of civil process of any kind is prohibited on Sundays. Service made on Sunday in violation of the statute is void (*Foster v. Piasecki*, 259 AD2d 804, 805). The statute has existed since 1965 (L.1965, c. 1031, sec. 45), consistent with local “blue laws” that were in effect at the time. The statute’s obvious purpose is to provide rest for both process servers and defendants on the Lord’s Day. The statute is not an unconstitutional establishment of religion, nor does it violate the equal protection clauses of the federal and state constitutions (*Fine v Commissioner of Dept. of Consumer Affairs*, 168 AD2d 285).

A companion statute is GBL 13, which provides that service cannot be made on Saturdays upon any person who keeps Saturday as a holy time. A violation of that statute is a misdemeanor. The statute is protective of religiously observant Jews. Service made in violation of the statute is void (*JP Morgan Chase Bank, Nat’l Ass’n. v Lilker*, 153 AD3d 1243, 1244). However, mere service upon a Jewish defendant is not void unless two specific requirements are met. First, the recipient of the process must actually use and observe Saturday as a no-work holy time. Second, the process server’s choice of serving on Saturday must be motivated by malice (GBL 13; *Signature Bank N.A. v Koschitzki*, 57 Misc.3d 495 [Sup. Ct., Kings Co.]). The religiously-prohibited service includes not only personal service, but other methods of service as well. If process is made on Saturday upon a person of suitable age and discretion under CPLR 308(2), the statute may be violated if the timing was malicious (*accord Garner v Doggie Love LLC*, 2011 WL 197729 [Sup. Ct. NY Co.]). Similarly, if service is effected by the “nail and mail” method under CPLR 308(4), and affixation occurs on Saturday, the statute is violated (*JP Morgan Chase Bank, Nat’l Ass’n. v Lilker*, 153 AD3d at 1245). Any service that is invalidated under GBL 11 or 13 represents a failure to obtain personal jurisdiction over the defendant, meaning that the plaintiff is not entitled to re-commence a second action beyond the statute of limitations within the six-month grace extension of CPLR 205(a).

Cases involving alleged violations of GBL 13 involve whether the defendant is truly observant, and even more frequently, whether the service was timed with religious malice. Malice necessarily speaks to the process server’s state of mind. It may be established by reasonable inferences drawn from the facts, such as Saturday service upon an outwardly Orthodox or Hasidic person. It exists when the process server actually knew that the person being served was observant (*Hirsch v. Ben Zvi*, 184 Misc.2d 946, 948). In *Hirsch*, where service was effected on a Saturday that also happened to be Sukkot, the religious observance of plaintiff’s counsel was imputed to the process server in finding malice and invalidating the process (*Id.*, at 948). Service of process will withstand challenge when the defendant, while Jewish, is not shown to observe Saturday as a holy day (*Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. v Powell*, 111 Misc.2d 1011 [Sup. Ct., Nassau Co.]), or when the element of malice is lacking (*Hudson City Savings Bank, FSB v Schoenfeld*, 172 AD3d 692, 693; *Matter of Kushner*, 200 AD2d 1, 2).

The service of mere notices, such as a contractual notice under a lease, does not violate the prohibitions of GBL 11 and 13 (*Glenball, Ltd. v TLY Coney, LLC*, 57 AD3d 843).

GBL 11 and 13 do not prohibit service of process on national holidays, nor service upon observers of religious holidays that fall on weekdays, or in the case of Christians, on Saturdays. Thus, service of process on a non-Sunday Christmas is valid, whereas service on an Easter, which is always on a Sunday, is not. And statutorily, Passover, Yom Kippur and other high Jewish holidays are apparently fair game for service of process when they do not fall on a weekend. The reader might notice the statutory inconsistencies.

Mark C. Dillon is a Justice at the Appellate Division, 2nd Dept., an Adjunct Professor of New York Practice at Fordham Law School, and an author of CPLR Practice Commentaries in McKinney’s.

TECHNOLOGY TIPS FOR ATTORNEYS

submitted by

Michael Loewenberg*

Chrome and Other Browsers

As we are doing our part by staying at home, we can rely on technology tools to make parts of our lives easier. With all this time on our hands, we're certainly on the internet more, browsing the web – some statistics show that internet traffic is up 70% in these days of quarantine. Let's talk about browsers and how to improve your online life by using their features.

There are four major internet browsers and most of us use one or more of them: Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge. Some of us use Internet Explorer, the forerunner of Edge, but mostly because one of the websites we need for our work requires it. We'll talk about some things that the browsers have in common and wrap up with some unique functionality that you could find useful in your remote work.

Each of the browsers allows you to set up an account so that your settings are saved and usable across the multiple devices that you use in your daily life. So, for example, you should have an account in each browser so that your saved passwords, bookmarks, history and other preferences are saved and available regardless of where you use that browser. That way, you don't have to remember your passwords - your browser does that for you.

In each browser's settings function, there's an option to set up an account for sync and saving. Do it! Once you've set up your account, you can sign in to that account on the other devices where you use that browser. You can sync your settings across all your devices: your phone, your tablet, your personal computer and your work computer. When you sign into your account in the browser, all the saved aspects in that browser are available!

I use Chrome from Google as my default browser on all my devices. I have a MacBook Pro at home and a Windows 10 PC at work as well as an iPad and iPhone. I love how it synchronizes my bookmarks and password information, all protected with Google (Gmail) credentials. (pro tip: when you sign into your Google account, turn on two-factor authentication. That extra layer of security sends you a text message when you log in, ensuring that it's you and not a hacker).

Google's browser allows users to sync tabs, bookmarks and other settings across multiple devices. So, once you sign into Chrome on any computer or your phone, you can view your opened tabs and browsing history on all your connected devices.

It also syncs your login credentials so you don't have to remember and re-enter your username and password information anywhere.

Here are a couple of examples of how it can help you:

1. you can search for and click on a restaurant's website in Chrome on your iPad, then open Chrome on your phone and instantly view the restaurant's page. You can even hit the back button on your phone to go back to the search results!
2. If you are like me, you have a lot of password protected websites you visit. With Google Chrome running everywhere with my synchronized usernames and passwords, accessing everything is merely a click away.
3. When I'm in the middle of researching something on the web, I can simply walk away and resume my search on any of my other devices without copying URLs or mailing links.

You can get Google Chrome for all your devices and it's free!

We're spending more time on the web. Sign up for an account on all your browsers to improve your experience.

*Michael Loewenberg is the President of MESH Business Solutions, Inc., New City, NY, 10956 and he is also an Affiliate Member of the RCBA.

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To take advantage of this Introductory offer, email Nancy ASAP at nancy@rocklandbar.org or call us at 845-634-2149. Introductory offer good through August 1, 2020. Contact us today!





NEW YORK STATE
COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

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NEWS RELEASE

April 1, 2020

Contact:	<i>Marisa E. Harrison, Public Records Officer</i> <i>(518) 288-8658</i>
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**Attorney Ronald J. Rosenberg
Appointed to Judicial Conduct Commission**

Ronald J. Rosenberg, an attorney whose office is in Nassau County, New York, has been appointed to the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct by Senate Minority Leader John J. Flanagan, for a four-year term commencing April 1, 2020.

Mr. Rosenberg is a graduate of Hofstra University and St. John’s University School of Law. He is a senior partner with the Garden City firm of Rosenberg Calica & Birney LLP. His practice includes commercial, business, real estate, land use and municipal litigations and transactions and business entity formation and litigation.

Mr. Rosenberg began his career as an associate with a Manhattan law firm and later started his own firm, the Law Offices of Ronald J. Rosenberg. He previously served as Chair of the Banking Committee and as a member of the Judiciary Committee of the Nassau County Bar Association. He has been a member of the Florida Bar since 1979. He has also been appointed by various Supreme Court Justices to serve as a Special Referee, Referee, and Receiver.

Mr. Rosenberg is a featured columnist in the *Long Island Business News* and has appeared on television as a legal commentator on various news shows including “Good Day, New York.”

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

April 1, 2020

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Additional information on Mr. Rosenberg and the other members of the Commission can be found on the Commission’s website: www.cjc.ny.gov.

Background on the Commission

The Commission was established in 1978 by the New York State Constitution to review complaints of misconduct and disability against judges and justices of the State Unified Court System and, where appropriate, to discipline publicly those judges found to have engaged in misconduct.

The Commission is composed of 11 members, all of whom serve without pay. The Governor appoints four members (two of whom must be non-lawyers/non-judges), the Chief Judge of the State of New York appoints three members (all of whom must be judges) and the four leaders of the State Legislature appoint one each.

The Commission has a full-time staff operating from offices in New York City, Albany and Rochester.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Member	Appointing Authority	Term End
Joseph W. Belluck, Esq., Chair	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2020
Paul B. Harding, Esq., Vice Chair	Former Assembly Minority Leader Brian M. Kolb	March 31, 2021
Jodie Corngold	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2023
Taa Grays, Esq.	Senate President Pro Tem Andrea Stewart-Cousins	March 31, 2023
Hon. John A. Falk	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2021
Hon. Leslie G. Leach	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2024
Hon. Angela M. Mazzarelli	Chief Judge Janet DiFiore	March 31, 2022
Hon. Robert J. Miller	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2022
Marvin Ray Raskin, Esq.	Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie	March 31, 2022
Ronald J. Rosenberg, Esq.	Senate Minority Leader John J. Flanagan	March 31, 2024
Akosua Garcia Yeboah	Governor Andrew M. Cuomo	March 31, 2021

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Important Court Updates!

News From the Executive Director:

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2020/21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the By Laws of the Rockland County Bar Association, the Nominating Committee has nominated the following candidates for election to the Association’s Board of Directors:

- Marc J. Ackerman – 3 year term
- Andrea Composto – 3 year term
- Christopher J. Exias – 3 year term
- Richard A. Glickel – 3 year term
- Edward Kallen – 3 year term
- Amy M. Mara – 3 year term

Any member of the Association not selected by the Nominating Committee who wishes to have his or her name placed in nomination for election to the Board, whether or not he or she solicited nomination from the Nominating Committee, shall submit a petition to place his or her name before the membership. The petition must be signed by no fewer than twenty (20) members in good standing with the Association and must be submitted in person at the offices of the Bar Association, 337 N. Main Street, Suite 1, New City, NY, 10956, no later than April 6, 2020.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please see this important announcement inside this issue of Newsbrief:

- 1. Online Website Ads - now available (page 10)
- 2. Membership Drive is on now! (page 14)



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MEMO

TO ALL RCBA COMMITTEE CHAIRS & VICE- CHAIRS

The Association is seeking articles from your committee for publication in the Bar's monthly Newsletter. The membership would greatly benefit from your input and would appreciate it. The article does not have to be complicated or long- a succinct piece of general interest and importance would be best.

If you are able to submit an article for the Newsletter it should be sent via email to sabrina@rocklandbar.org by the 15th of the month so that the Executive Board may review it.

Thank you!



CLE CORNER

PLAN YOUR YEAR OF CLEs NOW

All in-person CLE's have been postponed until further notice

NEW CLE REQUIREMENT

In addition to ethics and professionalism, skills, law practice management, and areas of professional practice, a new category was added for diversity, inclusion and elimination of bias courses. This category of credit is effective January 1, 2018.

Experienced attorneys due to re-register on or after July 1, 2018 must complete at least one credit hour in the Diversity, Inclusion and Elimination of Bias CLE category of credit as part of their biennial CLE requirement. The transitional CLE requirement for newly admitted attorneys remains unchanged. For more information about the CLE Rules, visit nycourts.gov/Attorneys/CLE.

CLE REQUIREMENTS

Newly admitted attorneys must complete 32 credit hours of accredited “transitional” education within the first two years of admission to the Bar. Sixteen (16) credit hours must be completed in each of the first two years of admission to the Bar as follows: 3 hours of Ethics and Professionalism; 6 hours of Skills; 7 hours of Practice Management and/or areas of Professional Practice.

Experienced Attorneys must complete 24 credit hours of CLE during each biennial reporting cycle: 4 credit hours must be in Ethics and Professionalism. The other credit hours may be a combination of the following categories: Ethics and Professionalism, Skills, Practice Management or Professional Practice.

COMMITTEE CORNER

Your Committee Chair will contact you regarding any upcoming remote meetings.

Need a Place to Meet in New City?

RCBA Conference Rooms available for rent.

MEMBER PRICES:

1st two hours FREE, then \$25/hour
Full Day (8 hours) = \$140.00

NON-MEMBER PRICES:

\$50/hour
Half Day (4 hours) = \$150.00
Full Day (8 hours) = \$300.00

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AND ARTICLES MUST BE
REVIEWED BY THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR CONTENT.**

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Advertising & articles appearing in the RCBA Newsletter does not presume endorsement of products, services & views of the Rockland County Bar Association.

CLASSIFIED ADS



OFFICE SPACE

Located in the Heart of New City, this spacious office is available for rent on December 1, 2019. Rent \$650.00. Includes copy machine and available conference area for meetings. Please contact Attorney Arnold Blatt at 845-638-0660.

OFFICE SPACE

Negotiable price. Please call Gary Lipton at 845-624-0100

OFFICE SPACE

Office in shared service building- North Main Street, New City. Westlaw included. Call Lynn at 638-4718.

OFFICE SPACE

Office within law office suite for rent at 10 Esquire Road, New City. Includes use of free Wifi, conference room, restroom and waiting area. One level building and ample parking. Available September 1, 2019. No security or fee required. Call Dave at 638-2889

OFFICE FURNITURE FOR SALE

Priced to sell. Vertical and lateral file cabinets, storage units, desks, chairs, conference table, book cases, credenza, tables, dividers, bulletin boards, white board. Please call Madelon at 914-527-2400 for information. Items are located in New City.

OFFICE SPACE

Office for rent - 254 South Main Street, New City - Furnished office in existing practice - complete with filing space and use of conference room. \$750.00 per month. Possible over flow work. Contact opportunityunique2019@gmail.com

OFFICE SPACE

Office Space available in Bardonia. 2 Units - \$850 & \$950/month. All utilities included, turn key office space, parking, located on 304, shredding and coffee included, conference rooms, furnished for the right terms and basement storage available. Please call Jason Horowitz at 845-323-9177.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Haverstraw - one, two or three offices available. Waiting room, receptionist area, large parking lot, large conference room, with or without furniture. Possible overflow. email: lawoffice10927@gmail.com

PART-TIME OFFICE - NEW CITY

Office in New City available to use on your letterhead, accept packages, meet with clients, hold conferences, send faxes, accept mail, meetings at day or night, receptionist, waiting area for clients, very ample free parking, private bathroom. Perfect for practitioner with home office who needs a public presence. Low monthly fee. Call Bill at 845-300-9168.

ATTORNEY NEEDED

NYS funded Immigration Organization serving clients with immigration and citizenship issues seeks part-time immigration attorney to collaborate with Dept. of Justice accredited staff. Organizational activities are in both Rockland and Westchester counties. If interested, please submit resume in confidence to agency Pres/CEO at: patricia.rajala@gmail.com.

ATTORNEY WANTED

I am looking for a full time plaintiff personal injury attorney with at least 2 years of experience in the field of personal injury law (plaintiff or defense). Please have them contact me at 845-638-3012 or mneimark@neimarklaw.com.

PARALEGAL WANTED

Paralegal for plaintiff's personal injury law firm. Experienced all phases of litigation from intake through discovery and trial preparation. Bilingual a plus. Computer Savvy with good interpersonal skills. Send resume to lawyers@pilaw.com.

ENTRY LEVEL ASSOCIATE WANTED

A solo criminal, commercial and personal law office is looking to hire a part or a full-time entry or newly established associate. The salary and hours are negotiable. Please forward resume to lauren@garyliptonlaw.com or fax to 845-624-0288.

ATTORNEY WANTED

New City, NY Law Office seeks attorney with interest in a career with a law firm practicing in the areas of Personal Injury, Malpractice, and Nursing Home Neglect. No experience necessary. Salary and Benefits to be discussed. Call 845.598.8253. E-mail: vcrownlaw@aol.com. Applicants can learn more about the Law Firm of Valerie J. Crown by visiting our website: valericrown.com

TRIAL ATTORNEY WANTED

Finkelstein & Partners is seeking to hire a TRIAL ATTORNEY to cover Orange, Rockland and Westchester County personal injury cases. Candidates must be licensed to practice in New York and have 3 to 5 years of litigation experience. To be considered please your email resume to: teavallucci@lawampm.com

LEGAL ASSISTANT PART-TIME

Legal/administrative assistant for small law firm in New City. This is a part-time entry level position suitable for someone interested in gaining practicable and invaluable job experience in the legal area. Good computer skills, detailed oriented, knowledge of basic office procedures and Internet savvy candidate preferred. Students are encouraged to apply. Please fax resume to (845) 517-0671.

ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY NEEDED

3-5 years litigation experience for busy Rockland County firm. Please forward resume to phabas@barpc.com or fax to 845-359-5577

ATTORNEYS SEEKING PARALEGALS

Rockland Community College ABA approved Paralegal program can assist attorneys with filling their open job positions for both part and full time employment opportunities. We have students that range from entry level to experienced Paralegals. Paralegals are not permitted to practice law, which means they cannot give legal advice, represent clients in court, set a legal fee or accept a case. Contact Amy Hurwitz-Placement Coordinator at (845) 574-4418 or email at ahurwitz@sunyrocland.edu

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