

# ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

# NEWSBRIEF

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT L. FELLOWS  
President

LAURA M. CATINA  
Vice President

LAURIE A. DORSAINVIL  
Treasurer

AIMEE POLLAK  
Secretary

## DIRECTORS

RICHARD A. GLICKEL  
KEITH I. BRAUNFOTEL

HERNAN CACERES

AMY M. MARA

BRIDGET GAUNTLETT

ALICIA B. CEMBER

LEONARD J. BIRBROWER

NICOLE DIGIACOMO

STEVEN H. BELDOCK

GARY L. CASELLA

DAVID CASTAGNA

Hon. WILLIAM WARREN  
(Ret)

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NANCY LOW-HOGAN,  
Ph.D.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Post

Notice of Nominations for the

Board of Directors

Nominations for Awards

Mock Trial Update

The Practice Page

Law Day 2024

Technology Tips

RCBA Facebook Page

Hon. Berliner Portrait Un-

veiling  
Yon HaShoah Commemora-

tion

Commercial Litigation

Items of Interest

Spotlight

RCBA Good News

RCBA Composite Photo

Succession

RCBA New Members

Join RCBA Referral

Service

RCBA Membership

Drive

Book Review: The Auto-

biography of Malcolm X

Employment Opportuni-

ties: Unified Court System

Advertise with RCBA

CLE Corner

Committee Corner

Classified Ads

Barbara Silverstone—Editor

[www.rocklandbar.org](http://www.rocklandbar.org)



April 2024

## President's Post

One cannot be unaware that the practice of law carries with it stress in a variety of forms and precipitated by known and unknown events. There is the stress of a difficult client, preparing for trial, being in court, meeting deadlines and the burden of filing timely appeals. I am sure that each of us can think of much more.

We have developed, either intentionally or without awareness, coping mechanisms. Some of those mechanisms are productive, others are impairing such as alcohol, gambling, sex, drug abuse and workaholism. Why not consider mindfulness as a way of coping with the stressors we all face?

By mindfulness, I think of meditation. Try spending a few minutes removing yourself from the deleterious effects of stress by, as an example, closing the door, sitting in a comfortable chair and just following your breath. Breathe in through the nose and out through the mouth, focusing your intention solely on the breath. While doing this, focus on each part of your body relaxing. Start from your toes and work your way up to your head. If a thought intrudes, just ignore it – it is a cloud floating by as you follow your breath. While focusing on the breath you might internalize a phrase, whether it be peace, joy, contentment, Jesus, ohm, or any relaxing “mantra” of your choosing. Thoughts will invariably intrude but just let them just drift by without reacting to them. Start off with the goal of doing this for five minutes or less and then increase the timeframe. You might meditate in the morning, during work or in the evening.

Meditation is the first cousin of mindfulness. By being mindful, you endeavor to live in the moment. You become aware of your surroundings, of your activities. You focus on how you are walking, the environment around you and the fragrance of the Spring. Take the time to be wholly present in the moment, whether it's eating, speaking or listening to a loved one. Mindfulness in the courtroom goes a long way. You are observing each witness's body movements, voice tenor, pitch and facial gestures. You will be more in-tuned to clues from jurors and from the presiding judge. So, for those of you who are brave and want to embrace new techniques for dealing with the travails of our profession, try meditation and being mindful or tuned to what is occurring around you.

Shifting to the more mundane, last month I commented about Gov. Hochul's proposed diversion of \$100M from interest earned on Lawyer IOLA accounts.

*Continued...*

*Continued...*

Almost \$100M would have been redirected and placed in the State's general budget. Ordinarily, the funds would be utilized to provide civil legal services. There was a large pushback from many sectors, including the NYS Bar. Fortunately, the Governor dropped the plan to remove the \$100M previously earmarked from IOLA interest for low income civil litigants. IOLA's Board of Directors as well as civil legal aid providers were both opposed to the move. Now, the interest earned can continue to flow to those New Yorkers in need and provide them greater access to justice.

Getting back to the important realm of stress reduction, I have been commenting for some time about meditation, mindfulness, positive communication, caring about employees, exercise, addiction and other topics far too long avoided in our profession. Recently, I read an article that talks about the pillars of being happier in the practice of law. The first pillar the author refers to is "Health and Wellness". She notes that one can't be happy as a person if your body and mind are sick and uncared for. Therefore, exercise is so very helpful in stress reduction. In addition to meditation, yoga and exercise, in some form, will uplift your spirit.

I submit that as a lawyer, and as a human being for that matter, one has to be mindful of your own health and stay in balance as best as you can. Nurture yourself by not embracing the practice of law as 100% of your being. There are avocations, family and other interests that can complement our careers. Make sure that you have an annual checkup. Check out a local gym. Give up sugar. Stop drinking soda. If you are hooked on tobacco, make every effort to overcome the nicotine addiction.

The second pillar described is what you don't learn in law school, namely client development. I've always advocated a personal approach. Hand out your cards, whether at a deli, gas station, or when a contractor comes to your home or office. Tell as many people as possible that you interact with that you are a lawyer. I know this is old school and now we have the benefit of social media to add to the interpersonal touch. Why not create a Facebook or Instagram page? Post interesting items. Get involved in a community organization, perhaps a not-for-profit that is near and dear to you.

The third pillar of advice is setting appropriate career boundaries. Your greatest asset is your health, time and energy which must be managed in such a way as to promote wellness. You don't have to answer every email as soon as it comes in. One can pull the plug while taking a jog, kicking back and relaxing over a glass of wine and a Netflix movie, immersing oneself in an interesting book or listening to music that soothes your soul. Continue to keep your mind active. Acquire new information and knowledge derived from all of life's experiences, whether an interesting periodical, a TED talk, a CLE or what better than a stimulating conversation with a friend or colleague. The world is ever changing and one has to agree that change for many of us is difficult but with change comes growth and new vistas. Be up for this challenge, whether it derives from the digital world, advancing technology, or better yet, human interaction. So, the message is that we must learn and grow throughout our careers and throughout our lives.

Try to save funds as your career progresses. Establish an IRA, 401k or a pension plan of some sort. You don't have to fork away a lot as you begin your career, but over decades you will be rewarded from your discipline of paying yourself first. A healthy work-life balance may be difficult to achieve, but we must not relinquish our striving to grow with greater insight and acquiring new areas of knowledge that give us joy outside of our offices.

My law school alma mater has introduced a wellness program to address some of the stressors that law students encounter, including test anxiety, depression, perfectionism and imposter syndrome. I submit that wellness is an integral part in the practice of law after we graduate. Finally, many of us strive for perfection. Winston Churchill stated "perfection is the enemy of progress". We can be competent without being perfect. Perfection is unattainable in life and in our careers. However, competence in achieving good results is within our grasp. May we achieve goodness, meaning and satisfaction throughout our careers.

*Continued...*

*Continued...*

The Bar Association and some of the big law firms have available mental health programs which are becoming more and more apparent as our profession recognizes the deleterious effects of an overly stressed and anxious attorney.

You should know that RCBA has a Lawyer to Lawyer Committee. So, if you, or anyone that you know, is struggling, reach out to our Committee Co-Chairs, Bridget Gauntlett or Amy Mara, in confidence. Programs exploring meditation and mindfulness are also embedded within some of the larger firms and this mindset should spread throughout the profession. As a meaningful and uplifting palliative, practice random acts of kindness. Carve out a space for wellness in your own life, whatever it may be, a hobby, just time away from the practice of law, doing something that takes your mind off the day to day stressors we all encounter. Find your passion, both in and outside of the practice of law.

May Easter, Passover and Ramadan uplift each of us!

Robert (Rob) L. Fellows  
President





**NOTICE OF CANDIDATES  
FOR THE 2024/25 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  
following are the candidates for the Board:**

**Jeffrey M. Adams (3-year term)**

**Judith Bachman (3-year term)**

**Alicia B. Cember( 3-year term)**

**George G. Coffinas (1-year term)**

**Robert L. Fellows (3-year term)**

**Jay Golland (3-year term)**

**Helena Phillibert (3-year term)**

## **NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS**

We have a membership of many outstanding attorneys. Each year we recognize those that are nominated by their peers. If you would like to nominate someone for one or more of our awards, please fill out this form and fax (845-634-1055) or e-mail [nancy@rocklandbar.org](mailto:nancy@rocklandbar.org). Final decisions are made by our Board of Directors at an upcoming Board Meeting. Please submit your nominations as soon as possible.

**THE LIBERTY BELL AWARD** This award is presented on Law Day to a member of our Community for outstanding service in promoting a better understanding or respect for the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and our institutions of government. Generally this award is usually given to a non-lawyer.

**I wish to Nominate:**

---

**THE STERNS AWARD** Given in the memory of Richard Sterns to a RCBA member who has made significant contributions to the Bar Association and the People of Rockland County over the year - service above self on behalf of the association. This award is presented at the Installation Dinner in June.

**I wish to Nominate:**

---

**THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** Presented to an individual for exemplary achievements as an attorney or judge over a career. This award is presented at the Annual Dinner.

**I wish to Nominate:**

---

**THE JOSEPH G. BALSAMO AWARD** This award is presented at the June Installation Dinner in memory of Joseph G. Balsamo, Esq., to a RCBA member who has gained significant respect from the members of the Bar and the public for his or her personal and professional contributions to both, while maintaining the highest form of integrity and professionalism while advocating for each.

**I wish to Nominate:**

---

**THE NATALIE COUCH AWARD** This award is dedicated to the memory of Natalie Couch, a pioneering member and president of the Rockland County Bar Association, who was a voting rights advocate and an influential community leader. The honoree should be someone whose own accomplishments have served to inspire others to overcome prejudice and barriers in attaining their goals for the benefit of our community. This award is presented at the Annual Dinner.

**I wish to Nominate:**

---

Please print this page, complete Form & FAX to 845-634-1055, or scan and send to [Nancy@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Nancy@rocklandbar.org)

## Here is an exciting update from the RCBA Mock Trial Committee

On Monday night, March 25, we held the semi-final round for the 2024 High School Mock Trial competition. We are excited to announce that the winners were Ramapo High School and Clarkstown North High School.

The Final Round will be held on Monday, April 15 at 5:30PM at the Rockland County Courthouse. Ramapo will present the prosecution and Clarkstown North will present the defense. All are welcome to attend.

Congratulations to the teams who advanced and thank you to all the teams that participated this year! We are so impressed by all of you!!!!



## THE PRACTICE PAGE

### WHEN A DOG'S BITE IS WORSE THAN ITS BARK



Hon. Mark C. Dillon \*



Do you like dogs? I do. They like taking walks. They enjoy riding shotgun in the car with their heads out the open window, taking in scents along the route. They are loyal. They obey the leash. They even smile for photographs (even better than some of us humans, myself included). And for our single readers, they may even be a magnet for other singles that helps break the proverbial ice.

For all animal lovers, we'll focus on the case of *Cantore v Costantine*, 221 AD3d 56 (2023). The case addresses the very small percentage of dogs which ... well, bite humans. Go figure. Those bites may be relatively minor, but on other occasions, they may be quite serious and, in the event of a full-on attack, even fatal (*e.g. Sutton v City of New York*, 119 AD3d 851 [2014]). For every tort-infused dog with a good set of teeth, there is a corresponding plaintiff's attorney given the dog-eat-dog nature of litigation.

But first let's touch upon the basics of dog bite liability law. Since 1816, the law of this state has been that the owner of a domestic animal who either knows or should have known of an animal's vicious propensities will be held liable for the harm the animal causes as a result of those propensities (*Vrooman v Lawyer*, 13 Johns 339 [1816]; *see also Collier v Zambito*, 1 NY3d 444, 446). "Vicious propensities" include the propensity to do any act that might endanger the safety of the persons or property of others in a given situation (*Dickson v McCoy*, 39 NY 400, 403 [1868]). Knowledge of vicious propensities may be shown by proof of prior acts of a similar kind of which the owner had notice (*Benoit v Troy & Lansingburgh R.R. Co.*, 154 NY 223, 225 [1897]). Vicious propensities include a prior attack, the dog's tendency to growl, snap, or bare its teeth, the manner in which the dog was restrained, and a proclivity to act in a way that puts others at risk of harm (*Bard v Jahnke*, 6 NY3d 592, 597 [2006]). The vicious propensities rule displaces the standard elements of negligence, and imposes strict liability upon an animal's owner when prior actual or constructive knowledge of vicious propensities is established (*Hastings v Suave*, 21 NY3d 122, 125 [2013]), *Collier v Zambito*, 1 NY3d at 448). Additionally, an animal that behaves in a manner that would not necessarily be considered dangerous or ferocious, but which nevertheless reflects a proclivity to act in a way that puts others at risk of harm, can be found to have vicious propensities — albeit only when such proclivity results in the injury giving rise to the lawsuit (*Bard v Jahnke*, 6 NY3d at 597). The reader will note the advanced age of some of the cases cited here, reflecting the long-standing law that has defined the concepts governing animal liability for several generations. Including many generations of dogs.

*Continued...*



**Continued...**

Liability is not limited to the actual owners of the animal, but extends to those who harbor or exercise dominion or control over it (*Molloy v Strain*, 191 NY 21, 21 [1908]; *Matthew H. v County of Nassau*, 131 AD3d 135, 144 [2015]). The Court of Appeals recognized a special rule for veterinarians and other animal specialists in *Hewitt v Palmer Veterinary Clinic, PC*, 35 NY3d 541 (2020), where it was held that a patron of a veterinary clinic who was attacked in a waiting room by another patron's dog possessed a cause of action against the clinic, even though the clinic did not have prior notice of the dog's vicious propensities. The reason veterinary clinics can potentially be held liable in such instances, on a premises liability theory, is that veterinarians have specialized knowledge of animal behavior and can foresee that within their waiting rooms, dogs there may experience pain, stressors, and unfamiliar people, animals, and surroundings, creating a heightened and foreseeable risk of aggressive behavior at the facility (*Id.*, at 548).

With that all said, in *Cantore v Costantine, supra*, the defendant, Daikers Restaurant, was a dog-friendly restaurant which posted a sign at its entrance announcing that it was a pet-friendly establishment, and that animals there must be kept on a leash. On a day in 2019, the 3-year old infant plaintiff was bitten by a dog owned by two of the restaurant's patrons, the Costantine defendants. The plaintiff's complaint alleged *inter alia* that the restaurant had permitted the dog in question to freely roam the premises without a leash. Cross-claims between the restaurant and the dog owners' flew like fur. The restaurant moved for summary judgment arguing that it had no prior knowledge of the dog's vicious propensities, that it had posted a requirement that dogs be kept leashed, and that contrary to the allegations of the plaintiff's complaint, the dog in question had actually been leashed at the time of the occurrence. The plaintiff opposed the restaurant's motion for summary judgment and cross-moved for partial summary judgment, arguing *inter alia* that despite the restaurant's lack of knowledge of vicious propensities, the restaurant could nevertheless be held strictly liable under the *Hewitt* standard, given that the restaurant was pet-friendly and had failed to assess whether any of the animals invited onto the premises posed a risk of injury to patrons. Which party was barking up the wrong tree?

The Appellate Division in *Cantore* determined that the *Hewitt* standard was not applicable to the restaurant, and therefore, the restaurant was entitled to summary judgment by virtue of it not having notice of the dog's vicious propensities. The court held, in effect, that the restaurant here, unlike the veterinary clinic in *Hewitt*, did not possess specialized knowledge of animal behavior as to exempt it from the vicious propensities standard for liability. The result reached in *Cantore* appears to be on all fours. A contrary result would have meant that all property owners who generally permit animals upon their premises would become subject to a general premises negligence standard, rather than be subject to the vicious propensities standard that has governed animal liability actions since 1816. In other words, in *Cantore*, the *Hewitt* tail was not permitted to wag the strict liability dog.

Hopefully for all of us going forward, only dogs' barks will be worse than their bites.

\*Mark C. Dillon is a justice of the Appellate Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dep't., an Adjunct Professor of New York Practice at Fordham Law School, and a contributing author to the CPLR Practice Commentaries in McKinney's.





**Wednesday, May 1, 2024**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**Rockland County Court House  
Jury Assembly Room - 2nd Floor**

**Save the date!**

*Light refreshments will be served*

*The 2024 Law Day theme "Voices of Democracy" recognizes that in democracies, the people rule. For nearly 250 years, Americans have expressed their political views and wishes by speaking their minds and voting in elections. In 2024, the United States will hold its 60th presidential election, and Americans will address fundamental questions about democracy and the rule of law.*



# Technology Tips for Attorneys



submitted by

**Michael Loewenberg\***

Remember the days of overflowing notebooks and frantic scribbling during client meetings on legal pads? Or maybe you're still having those kinds of days. Let's look at how note-taking apps can be a game-changer for busy attorneys. This month, we'll explore three popular apps – Evernote, OneNote, and Notion – to help you find the perfect fit for your practice.

## **Why Go Digital? Supercharge Your Law Firm with Note-Taking Apps**

Imagine a world where your notes are organized, searchable, and accessible from anywhere. No more misplaced notebooks or illegible handwriting! Note-taking apps offer a treasure trove of benefits for your law firm:

- **Organization Nirvana:** Say goodbye to note-taking chaos. These apps allow you to create folders, tags, and labels for your notes, keeping everything neatly categorized by case, client, or topic.
- **Search Champion:** Need to find a specific detail from a client meeting two months ago? No problem! Powerful search features let you instantly locate any keyword or phrase across all your notes.
- **Collaboration Corner:** Working on a case with colleagues? Many apps allow real-time collaboration, enabling seamless teamwork and shared knowledge.

## **Three Top Note-Taking Apps**

Now, let's look at three popular apps:

- **Evernote – Your Digital Filing Cabinet:** Think of Evernote as your virtual filing cabinet on steroids. It excels at storing all types of information – text, images, audio recordings, even PDFs. Evernote's powerful search functionality makes it a breeze to unearth anything you need, no matter how cryptic your note-taking style.

*Continued...*

... *Continued*

- **OneNote – Seamless Integration for the Microsoft Fanatic:** If your law firm already uses Microsoft Office products, OneNote might be your perfect match. It integrates seamlessly with other Microsoft applications, allowing for easy note-taking within Word documents or Excel spreadsheets. OneNote also boasts a flexible workspace where you can organize your notes visually with text boxes, images, and even handwritten notes (using a stylus-enabled device). And OneNote is free.
- **Notion – The All-in-One Powerhouse:** Notion might be the new kid on the block, but it's quickly gaining popularity for its versatility. It goes beyond simple note-taking, offering features like project management tools, databases, and wikis. If your firm desires a comprehensive solution for not just notes, but also case management and task tracking, Notion is worth exploring.

### **Finding Your Perfect Match: Considerations for Non-Technical Lawyers**

While all these apps offer fantastic features, here are some things to keep in mind if you're not particularly tech-savvy:

- **Learning Curve:** Evernote and OneNote offer a relatively gentle learning curve. Notion, with its wider range of features, might require a bit more time to get comfortable with.
- **Mobile Compatibility:** All three apps have user-friendly mobile versions, allowing you to access and update your notes on the go.
- **Security:** For a law firm, data security is paramount. Look for apps that offer robust security features like password protection and encryption. All three of these apps provide the necessary security infrastructure.

### **Beyond Efficiency: How Note-Taking Apps Can Improve Your Life**

These apps aren't just about work efficiency, they can be a lifesaver for busy attorneys:

- **Brain Dump Zone:** Feeling overwhelmed with thoughts and ideas? Use these apps to capture all those fleeting legal insights before they vanish.
- **Reduce Paper Trail:** Go green and ditch the paper! Scan important documents directly into your chosen app, decluttering your physical workspace.
- **Sharpen Your Focus:** Dictating your notes during meetings allows you to fully engage with your clients without the distraction of frantic scribbling.

*Continued...*




... Continued

### Taking the First Step: Embrace the Digital Future

The transition to digital note-taking might seem daunting at first. However, the benefits for your practice and your well-being are undeniable. Remember, these apps are designed to simplify your life, not complicate it. Start with a free trial, explore the features, and find the app that speaks to your note-taking style. With a little experimentation, you'll find your new-found access to your all your notes comforting and exhilarating.

\*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 Rockland County Bar Association has a [Facebook page](#) where we announce upcoming events and other issues of interest to the local community.

Visit and follow the page and “Like” the postings to help your association be seen!



ROCKLAND COUNTY  
BAR ASSOCIATION

HELPING ATTORNEYS AND THE PUBLIC

Join Today!

Dear Colleagues,

We hope you will be able to join us for the  
Presentation of the Portrait of:

*Honorable Robert M. Berliner*  
Justice of the Supreme Court, Retired

**Friday, May 3, 2024**  
**2:30 p.m.**  
**Rockland County Courthouse**  
**Courtroom #1**

With best regards,

The Bar Association



JUSTICE BRANDEIS LAW SOCIETY 9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE  
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & CENTER FOR TOLERANCE AND EDUCATION

# Yom HaShoah 2024 AT THE COURTHOUSE

**CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY:  
CIVICS, CIVILITY, & THE LEGAL COMMUNITY**

Cornerstone of Democracy Award:

Barry Kantrowitz, Esq. and Kantrowitz, Goldhamer & Graifman P.C.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: HON. JOAN B. LEFKOWITZ, JUSTICE -  
NYS SUPREME COURT - 9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 2-3PM**

Rockland County Courthouse  
THE JURORS ROOM  
1 South Main Street, New City, NY 10956

For more information and to RSVP  
please contact [holocaustrcc@gmail.com](mailto:holocaustrcc@gmail.com) or 845-574-4099

**Holocaust Museum**  
Center for **Tolerance and Education**



JUSTICE BRANDEIS  
LAW SOCIETY

WESTCHESTER • ROCKLAND • ORANGE • SUFFERN • PUTNAM





JUSTICE BRANDEIS LAW SOCIETY 9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE  
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & CENTER FOR TOLERANCE AND EDUCATION

# Yom HaShoah 2024 AT THE COURTHOUSE

## CORNERSTONES OF DEMOCRACY: CIVICS, CIVILITY, & THE LEGAL COMMUNITY

THE IMPORTANCE THE LAW HAS IN OUR DAILY LIVES, AND THE ROLE THE LEGAL SYSTEM—INCLUDING THE COURTS—PLAYS IN PROTECTING THE RIGHTS WE CHERISH, WHICH INCLUDE EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS; THE RIGHT NOT TO BE DEPRIVED OF LIFE, LIBERTY, OR PROPERTY WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW; AND THE FREEDOMS OF SPEECH, THE PRESS, AND RELIGION.



**Holocaust Museum**  
Center for **Tolerance and Education**



JUSTICE BRANDEIS  
LAW SOCIETY 9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

MARICOPA • ROCKLAND • ORANGE • DULCHES • PUTNAM



OAKLAND COUNTY  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
www.oaklandcountybar.org

## COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ISSUES OF INTEREST

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

SAVAD CHURGIN, LLP, Attorneys at Law

Your client is the principal of a corporation that defaulted on a \$44 million loan to renovate its financially distressed shopping mall. The loan was secured by a mortgage against the property and by a guaranty signed by your client. The loan agreement provided that the loan was non-recourse (thereby limiting the remedy for nonpayment to possession of the property) *unless* the corporation contested foreclosure or enforcement, whereupon the loan became full recourse against both the borrower corporation and your client (thereby allowing the lender to reach all assets, not just the property). However, the separate guaranty signed only by your client provided that the loan was full recourse to “Borrower,” not to guarantor. The lender’s foreclosure action was converted to an action seeking recovery from your client under the guaranty after the property was lost in a sheriff’s sale to satisfy a junior lien holder’s judgment. The lender moved for summary judgment against your client for personal liability under the guaranty, and you moved for summary judgment dismissing the claim. The lender argued that the guaranty’s language of full “recourse to Borrower” instead of full “recourse to Guarantor” was a scrivener’s error. You argued that the language in the guaranty was clear and that a claim for reformation was time-barred by the six-year statute of limitations.

Will you succeed in protecting your client from personal liability for the unpaid loan amount?

The answer is *no*.

In *NCCMI, Inc. v. Bersin Props., LLC*, NYLJ 1709739599NY65027615, 2024 NY Slip Op 01161 (1<sup>st</sup> Dep’t March 5, 2024), Kings Co. Index No.650276/15, the defendant, “Bersin,” entered a \$135 million loan agreement with the plaintiff lender’s predecessor to renovate a struggling shopping mall in Monroe County, New York, in 2007. Bersin’s principal, Congel, was named as guarantor of the loan, and executed an Indemnity and Guaranty Agreement as “Indemnitor.” The loan agreement provided for three loans, each secured by a mortgage encumbering the shopping mall. The loan was non-recourse, with some exceptions, including if Bersin or Congel contested the foreclosure action by filing an answer and asserting affirmative defenses. The language in the guaranty tracks the loan agreement, except that the guaranty provides for full recourse liability for “Borrower,” which seemingly insulates Congel from loan indebtedness.

The plaintiff commenced a foreclosure action on January 30, 2015, after loaning Bersin \$44 million dollars, none of which was repaid. Bersin answered the complaint and asserted 14 affirmative defenses on March 24, 2015. However, in January of 2016, Bersin lost title to the property in a sheriff’s sale held to satisfy a junior lienholder’s judgment. The property had minimal value, as Bersin did not develop it and there were

continuing costs to maintain it. The plaintiff released its mortgages to the new owner for \$4 million. The plaintiff then converted the foreclosure action to a plenary action on the underlying promissory notes and the guaranty, seeking full recovery of the debt, minus the \$4 million received. The plaintiff claimed that the

***Continued...***

... *Continued*

word “Borrower” in the guaranty was a scrivener’s error in copying the loan agreement provisions into the guaranty and failing to change “Borrower” to “Indemnitor.”

The Supreme Court denied both the plaintiff’s and defendants’ summary judgment motions. The plaintiff appealed and the defendants cross-appealed, limited to the issue of Congel’s personal liability for the debt.

The Appellate Division decision begins by reminding the bar that “proofreading is an essential indispensable tool in the drafting of contracts.” The Court modified the appealed order by granting summary judgment to plaintiff and otherwise affirming.

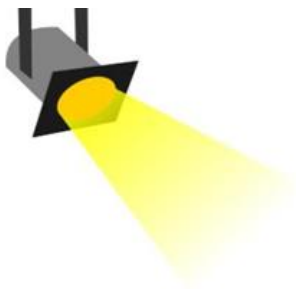
Tackling first the timeliness of the claim of scrivener’s error, the Court noted that the statute of limitations for reformation based on a scrivener’s error is six years, which begins to run on the date the mistake is made (CPLR 213[6]), in this case, in 2007. Nonetheless, explained the Court, even without a claim for reformation of contract, a court may correct a scrivener’s error in “those limited instances where some absurdity has been identified or the contract would otherwise be unenforceable either in whole or in part,” citing *Matter of Wallace v. 600 Partners Co.*, 86 N.Y.2d 543, 547-548 (1995), and *Jade Realty LLC v. Citicorp Commercial Mgt. Trust 2005-EMG*, 20 N.Y.3d 881, 883-884 (2012).

The Court found one of its earlier decisions to be “dispositive,” citing *PNC Capital Recovery v. Mechanical Parking Sys.*, 283 A.D.2d 268 (1st Dep’t 2001), lv dismissed 96 NY2d 937 (2001), appeal dismissed 98 N.Y.2d 763 (2002), which held that reading a guaranty so as to permit a corporation to guarantee its own indebtedness was illogical and rendered the entire guaranty meaningless. In *PNC*, after reading the transaction as a whole and in the context of the entire transaction, the Court rejected a claim by the defendant corporation’s president that he signed a guaranty of a corporate debt solely as president, as indicated by his title under his signature.

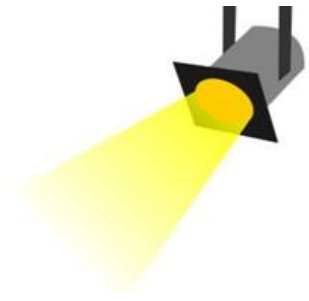
The Court rejected Congel’s argument that a literal reading of the guaranty’s full debt recourse liability to apply only to the borrower, as written, instead of the indemnitor, “would countenance an illogical result.” Bersin was a single-purpose entity with no assets other than the mortgaged property, rendering the guaranty illusory and meaningless. The “loan indebtedness would be unguaranteed, undermining the purpose of the Guaranty.” Additionally, other provisions of the guaranty confirmed that the full debt recourse liability ran to Congel, as indemnitor, such as: indemnitor liable if borrower is relieved by bankruptcy; indemnitor’s waiver of defenses; and the representation that the lender would not make the loan but for the unsecured personal liability of the indemnitor. Such provisions, according to the Court, would “be relegated to meaningless surplusage” if Congel, as indemnitor, is not personally liable for the loan, citing *Greenwich Capital Fin. Prods., Inc. v. Negrin*, 74 A.D.3d 413, 415 (1<sup>st</sup> Dep’t 2010), “rejecting an interpretation that relies on ‘formalistic literalism,’ ignores common sense, and could lead to absurd results.”

**The lesson?** Proofreading of all loan documents in conjunction with each other is essential, even and especially in multi-million dollar transactions.





**The Committee on Diversity,  
Equity & Inclusion presents...**



**SPOTLIGHT**

*This month the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee interviews  
Desmond Q. Martin, Esq.*

**Thank you for talking with me today! We are looking forward to learning a little bit about you in today's Spotlight Interview. Why don't we start with telling us where you grew up and a little bit about yourself?** I am from Fort Greene, Brooklyn. I went to South Shore High School and played basketball there for three years. After I graduated High School, I played basketball for



Desmond Q. Martin and his daughter Ashley Martin, Esq., who is following in his legal footsteps. The picture was taken when Desmond was in Family Court on the Third Floor and Ashley was in Supreme Court on the fourth floor here in

the Boston Shoot-Out and the coaches offered me a scholarship to Boston University. I was planning on attending Columbia University after High School but decided on taking the scholarship to Boston University. It was a great time to be at Boston University because it was at the time of the 1980 Olympics and the "Miracle on Ice" Hockey Olympic Gold Medal winners and many of those hockey players attended Boston University. I have great memories of them, and a great story. In 1980, my basketball team defeated Niagara in a playoff game and there were about 10 people in the gym. After the game, I went downstairs to the Walter Brown arena, and it was sold out as they honored the BU Hockey players that won the gold medal in the Olympics! They were a sight in their shearling coats and cowboy hats and gold medals.

What a great time to be a student athlete at Boston University!

**Did you always want to be a Lawyer?** I had no clue what I wanted to do after I graduated college. Hall of Famer, Joe Terrazi reached out to my coach, Rick Pitino and referred me for a job opening with the Coca Cola USA company. At that time, Coca Cola USA was looking to expand their hiring of African American individuals and I interviewed with the company upon the recommendation of Joe Terrazi and Coach Pitino. I received a job in Sales, which I did for seven years and then moved

*Continued...*

*Continued...*

into Operations until 1990. In 1987, while working for Coca Cola USA, I applied to the police force, but deferred my acceptance so that I could continue working with the company and go to Graduate School. I was fortunate that Coca Cola USA paid for my graduate schooling. I enrolled in Long Island University, at the Brooklyn Campus and earned my master's degree in management.

**Did you ever go back to the Police Academy?** Yes. In 1990 I became a police officer with the NYC Transit Police. While working with the NYC Transit Police I was on the Police Olympic Team and won a few medals in basketball. After four years with the NYC Transit Police Department, I was recruited to come up to the Town of Greenburgh to play basketball for Greenburgh at the Police Olympics. I remained with the Police Department in the Town of Greenburgh for 28 years, until my retirement as Lieutenant. I had 32 years of service on the police force when I retired on January 3, 2023.

**OK, now I know you became an attorney, when did that happen?** I went to Law School in 1993 while I was working full time in law enforcement. It was certainly challenging, but I did it and was successful at completing law school and the bar exam all while working full time. I really enjoy being an attorney here in Rockland County. We are like a family here. I love being on the 18B Panel for Family Court. The Bar Association staff is awesome and very helpful to me. Before taking cases, I would sit and observe everything. It's important to get the "lay of the land" and know what the proceedings are about and what the different judges are like. I was trained by Gary Eisenberg who was so helpful to me. Having a mentor is key and I'm grateful to Gary. Being on the 18B panel definitely keeps me busy and it gives me an opportunity to help people in the process.

**That is very impressive Desmond, what can't you do?** Well, actually, that isn't all I do. I'm also a Funeral Director. I went to Mortuary School and received my license in 2019. What can I say? I'm nose-y and intrigued by the human body. I would go to crime scenes as a police officer and be very inquisitive and interested in what I saw. Also, I like helping the families in their time of need. I enjoy bringing them comfort in any small way that I can.

**Thank you for sharing your professional life with us, it is quite incredible! Can you tell us a little bit about your personal life?** Of course! My wife Dominique is my biggest supporter. She was by my side supporting me every step of the way through law school and my career. She is a

*Continued...*



**Continued...**

well-respected member of our community, and I am lucky to have her by my side. We have three incredible daughters, Taylor, Ashley, and Brianna. Taylor is a Biochemist; Ashley is an Attorney and Brianna graduated with an MBA in Finance from the University of Oregon and is studying for the CPA exam. We lived in Harlem, moved up to Wappingers Falls and moved to Spring Valley in 1997. In 1999 we settled in New City where we raised our family. My wife and I are selling our home in New City, and we have our eye on moving south, possibly to Georgia

**Who is your inspiration or Hero?** My Father. My father was enrolled in Westinghouse trade school. Unfortunately, he was unable to complete his schooling. I know this was a loss for my father. Maybe that is why I strive to learn so many different things and try many different occupations and work hard every day. My name is Desmond Q. Martin. I got the “Q” from my father. Quinby. Sometimes I would get picked on as a kid for my middle name, but it is a strong name, and I am proud of it, and I use it as my full name. I never leave out the “Q”.

**What is one piece of good advice that you have received or learned?** “Stay in your lane.” It’s good to be zealous and aggressive, but you need to know your limitations. You need to stay in your lane. Also, don’t have any regrets in life!

**Tell us one of your guilty pleasures.** White Castle!

**Is there anything else we didn’t cover that you would like the Bar Association to know about you?** Yes. I partake in the Korean martial arts-based karate , Tang Soo Do as well as Tae Kwon Do. I have been involved in this sport since 2005 and I am a black belt.





# RCBA MEMBERS' GOOD NEWS!

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MONTHLY COLUMN ANNOUNCING  
OUR MEMBERS' GOOD NEWS



TARA IS PICTURED HERE WITH THE TOWN BOARD MEMBERS WHO APPOINTED HER.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RCBA MEMBER TARA PARLMAN WHO WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED AS THE FIRST FEMALE TOWN JUSTICE OF THE TOWN OF SHAWANGUNK, ULSTER COUNTY. TARA, AN ASSOCIATE AT FELLOWS HYMOWITZ RICE LLC, HAS BEEN PRACTICING LAW FOR 10 YEARS. SHE AND HER FAMILY HAVE RESIDED IN SHAWANGUNK FOR TWO YEARS.

SEND YOUR "GOOD NEWS" ITEM TO BARBARA SILVERSTONE AT  
[BARBARA@ROCKLANDBAR.ORG](mailto:BARBARA@ROCKLANDBAR.ORG)  
PHOTOS WELCOME!

# RCBA MEMBERS' 2023 HISTORIC 130<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMPOSITE GROUP PHOTO

## COMPOSITE PHOTO IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE!

### To purchase the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Composite:

Go to: <https://igorlacertisphotography.shootproof.com/gallery/23962558>

Click on "Gallery" in the lower right hand corner  
Password is "RCBA"

When the page opens click on "View Gallery"  
Then click on the small photo in the lower left hand corner  
Click on "Buy Photo" in the top right of the page

### Price List

#### Composite:

16"X20" - \$85

24"X30" - \$175

30"X40" - \$250

#### Prints of Headshots:

High Resolution Digital File of Individual Photo - \$30

Retouching (per file) - \$20

5"X7" Print - \$25

8"X10" Print—\$35

To purchase prints of your own photo:

Go to: [www.lacertisphoto.com](http://www.lacertisphoto.com)

- Click on CLIENT LOG IN
  - Click on CONTINUE TO GALLERY PAGE
  - Click on Rockland County Bar Association
  - Click on VIEW GALLERY
  - Enter your email address and the Gallery Password which is RCBA
  - Select Your Day (the day you had your photos taken)
  - See your name in alphabetical order by last name and click on it
  - Enter your password which is your last name
- View your photos and enjoy!





## SUCCESSION

*A new Newsbrief column*

**BY JUDITH BACHMAN, ESQ.**

### INTERNAL SUCCESSION



In our continuing discussion of law firm exit planning, we turn to the idea of internal successors.

Having an internal successor could be an ideal way to exit a law practice. Attorneys who have worked at a firm for some period of time will have a chance to get to know the firm's clients and gain their confidence. As the junior attorney grows into the role, the senior attorney can train their heir apparent and ensure that they are prepared to succeed.

Internal transitions may also be one of the most financially advantageous succession arrangements. Internal candidates are the ones likeliest to pay the law firm owner the highest price for the practice as they are best positioned to maximize the value of the practice. At the same time, the exiting law firm owner may be more flexible about accepting payments over time, as they should have confidence in the financial future of the firm.

Unfortunately, this ideal of internal succession may be more theoretical than realistic. Hiring any junior lawyer is incredibly difficult, let alone one who is to be the internal successor. Ninety percent of law firms report challenges in finding qualified candidates for open positions, according to a survey by the American Bar Association. 2022 Legal Technology Survey Report. This difficulty is, in my experience, all the more pronounced in the Rockland small firm setting. Attracting candidates is challenging as we cannot offer salaries comparable to those found at firms in Manhattan or Westchester and are located in an area that is difficult to access by public transportation.

Even if a small law firm does find and hire a good internal succession candidate, small firms rarely dedicate the necessary time or the resources to adequately train young attorneys. Moreover, few small firms have the infrastructure or systems to support continuity and growth.

With these realities, if a local law firm owner is hoping to have an internal succession it behooves them to plan early. They must devote the necessary resources to attract, train, and support their young lawyers. Internal succession could be an ideal exit but it requires this work to make it a realistic one too.



**THE ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS  
JOINED IN MARCH 2024**

Ben Bedell, Esq.

Eric S. Brown, Esq.

Meryl Iris Levy, Esq.

Mary Marzolla, Esq.

Matthew Schwalbenberg, Esq.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT  
OUR MANY CLE PROGRAMS AND OTHER**



**Join RCBA's Lawyer Referral Service**

We receive several calls each day from clients looking for local representation. We welcome all members to participate but are especially in need of attorneys in these practice areas:

Civil Appeals

Commercial law

Consumer law, including small claims court

Constitutional and Human Rights

Corporate Law including business formation, dissolution & franchises

Education law

Elder law

Environmental Law

Insurance Law, including automobile, home, disability, long term care

Intellectual Property

Landlord Tenant Law, including residential and commercial

Legal Malpractice

Zoning Law

Visit our [webpage](#) or contact [office@rocklandbar.org](mailto:office@rocklandbar.org) for more information and

# **RCBA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

**ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS  
GET 15 MONTHS OF MEMBERSHIP FOR  
THE PRICE OF 12!**

**START YOUR RCBA MEMBERSHIP NOW AND HAVE APRIL,  
MAY, AND JUNE 2024 INCLUDED WITH YOUR 2024-25  
MEMBERSHIP (JULY 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2025).**

**DOWNLOAD A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FROM THE RCBA  
WEBSITE ([ROCKLANDBAR.ORG](http://ROCKLANDBAR.ORG))**

**JOIN TODAY AND START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS OF RCBA  
MEMBERSHIP**

***\*CLE's\* Lawyer Referral Service \* Practitioners Chats\* Monthly  
E-Newsletter\* Rockland Bar CARES\****

**Current Members: Tell Your Friends!**

**[USE THIS LINK TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE](#)**

# RCBA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

~ ~ ~

REFER A NEW MEMBER\* AND GET A FREE  
HALF-PAGE AD FOR 3 MONTHS IN  
NEWSBRIEF.

The person referred must not be a current RCBA member, and they must meet the eligibility criteria for membership. The person must complete the Membership Application and pay the Dues in advance by either check or online. For the online Membership Application, use the link below  
**CALL BARBARA TODAY FOR DETAILS AND GET GOING ON YOUR FREE AD!**

To get your free ½ page ad, you must contact Barbara so we can link your referral to the person's Membership Application.

Call Barbara at 845-634-2149 or email

[Barbara@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@rocklandbar.org)

\*Regular, Associate or Affiliate Member

**[USE THIS LINK TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE](#)**



## **“The Autobiography of Malcolm X”**

**A review by Hon. Kevin F. Russo, Rockland County Court Judge**

**March 4, 2024**

I am a child of the sixties. Actually, I was a young teenager in the 1960s and remember very clearly the era of political assassinations, Viet Nam, political unrest, race riots, the Chicago 7, and the civil rights movement.

In the early to mid-sixties there were two names that Americans kept hearing about in relation to the civil rights movement: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X.

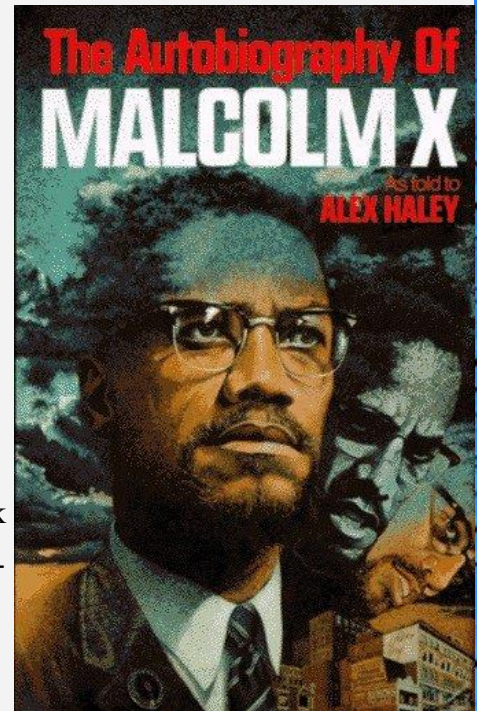
Martin Luther King, Jr. needs no introduction now. After all, he’s an American hero and his birthday is a national holiday. Back then, while loved by most of black society, he was not yet fully embraced by the white populace. Eventually, his message of peaceful non-violent protest against racial injustice took root and American society eventually recognized him for the giant that he was, even if it took his death to convince many of his noble mission.

However, there was another outspoken black leader who was, to say the least, unenthusiastically accepted by mainstream whites. Frankly, that’s an understatement. He was in fact reviled by many in white circles and widely considered a dangerous, violent troublemaker. His name was Malcolm X.

I clearly remember when he was murdered in New York City in early 1965. I didn’t think too much of it at the time and over the next few years, the resounding voice of the civil rights movement was Martin Luther King, Jr.

Over the years, I’ve read about Malcolm X, saw the movie, watched his speeches and television appearances, and became more educated about his life and achievements.

This past year, listening and watching all the shows during Black History Month, I decided to read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*. The title itself is a little bit of a misnomer as it was written in large part by the renowned author of *Roots*, Alex Haley. But, make no mistake about it, this book contains the words, spirit, and voice of Malcolm X.



*Continued...*



*Continued...*

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X* was originally published in 1964 but formally released after Malcolm X was assassinated in February of 1965.

The Muslim leader was many things: a prophet, a firebrand, an anti-integrationist, an intellectual. He was extraordinarily intelligent, well read, a brilliant orator and an even greater debater.

This book tells the remarkable story of his life and the history and growth of the Black Muslim movement. As you hear his life story, we are introduced to an absolutely fascinating perspective on the racism that he experienced in a society that denied its nonwhite citizens the opportunity to succeed. To say he had extraordinary insight into American society is a vast understatement.

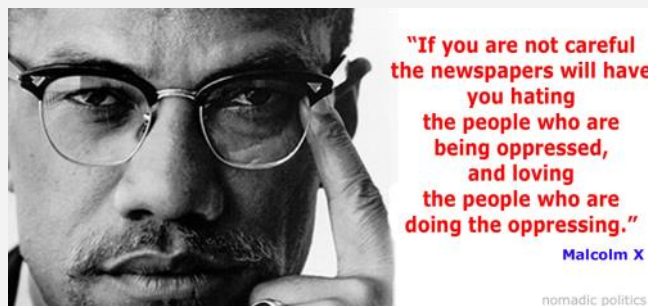
Malcolm X became one of the most influential figures of the 20th Century. In this enthralling account, he tells of his journey from a prison cell to Mecca. He details his journey from hoodlum and criminal to revered Muslim minister and American black leader. *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* tells the story of the man who called himself "the angriest black man in America" and how his conversion to the Islam faith helped him confront his rage and ultimately recognize the brotherhood of all men.

An established classic of modern America, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* was hailed by the New York Times as "extraordinary.... a brilliant, painful, important book. "

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X* remains compelling, and it is still important. To me, the book is an absolutely electrifying story and cements Malcolm X's legacy as a visionary, a leader and a great American.

The strength of his oratory coupled with the power of his ideas continues to resonate almost sixty years after his death.

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X* stands as the definitive statement of a movement and a man whose life's work was cut short but whose message is nevertheless ageless. And while there is no question America has come a long way in race relations, this book is essential reading for those who wish to understand American history and its interplay with the racial divides that still exist today.



# RCBA WELCOMES OUR NEWEST BRONZE SPONSOR

## VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS LLC

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



## OUR SILVER SPONSOR: M&T Bank

## Helping businesses thrive is important.

At M&T Bank, we understand that small business is the lifeblood of any thriving community. Which is why we are committed to providing our support and keeping our lending decisions local. [See what we can do for your business at your neighborhood branch or \*\*mtb.com\*\* today.](#)

M&T Bank is proud to support Rockland County Bar Association.

Adam Schoenenberger  
(845) 638 0146  
228 South Main Street  
New City, NY 10956







UCS-23

EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

**PLEASE POST  
ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 52414**

The Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department, is currently seeking applications for an attorney in the Court's Mental Hygiene Legal Service. The position will be filled in one of the following titles dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the applicant selected. Applicants should specify the position title or titles for which they wish to be considered.

**POSITION TITLE:** ATTORNEY **JG: 23**

**BASE SALARY:** \$82,198 + \$4,775 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State bar.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** Under direct supervision, Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, prepare cases for administrative proceedings and litigation in the courts, and perform other related duties. Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Services, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units.

**POSITION TITLE:** SENIOR ATTORNEY **JG: 26**

**BASE SALARY:** \$96,594 + \$4,775 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State bar and two (2) years of service in the Attorney title; or equivalent legal experience.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** With substantial independence from supervision, Senior Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, organize investigations, prepare and present cases before administrative tribunals and courts, and perform other related duties. Senior Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Service, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units. They may also oversee a departmental law guardian program.

**POSITION TITLE:** ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY **JG: 28**

**BASE SALARY:** \$107,629 + \$4,775 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State Bar and two (2) years of service in the Senior Attorney title; or equivalent legal experience.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** Associate Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, organize complex investigations, prepare and present complex cases before administrative tribunals and trial and appellate courts, and perform other related duties. Associate Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Service, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units. They may also oversee a departmental law guardian program.

**LOCATION:** Mental Hygiene Legal Service  
Orangeburg, Rockland County

**CLASSIFICATION:** Non-Competitive/Confidential





UCS-23

EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

**PLEASE POST**  
ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 52413

The Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department, is currently seeking applications for an attorney in the Court's Mental Hygiene Legal Service. The position will be filled in one of the following titles dependent upon the qualifications and experience of the applicant selected. Applicants should specify the position title or titles for which they wish to be considered.

**POSITION TITLE:** ATTORNEY **JG: 23**

**BASE SALARY:** \$82,198 + \$2,388 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State bar.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** Under direct supervision, Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, prepare cases for administrative proceedings and litigation in the courts, and perform other related duties. Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Services, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units.

**POSITION TITLE:** SENIOR ATTORNEY **JG: 26**

**BASE SALARY:** \$96,594 + \$2,388 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State bar and two (2) years of service in the Attorney title; or equivalent legal experience.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** With substantial independence from supervision, Senior Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, organize investigations, prepare and present cases before administrative tribunals and courts, and perform other related duties. Senior Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Service, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units. They may also oversee a departmental law guardian program.

**POSITION TITLE:** ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY **JG: 28**

**BASE SALARY:** \$107,629 + \$2,388 LOCATION PAY

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the New York State Bar and two (2) years of service in the Senior Attorney title; or equivalent legal experience.  
**To be qualified for this position, you must have a valid driver's license and a properly registered automobile for use in performing official duties away from your assigned station.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** Associate Attorneys serve in a confidential capacity and research legal questions and issues, organize complex investigations, prepare and present complex cases before administrative tribunals and trial and appellate courts, and perform other related duties. Associate Attorneys provide legal research and advocacy services in the Mental Hygiene Legal Service, attorney disciplinary committees, 18B panel administration, or other such units. They may also oversee a departmental law guardian program.

**LOCATION:** Mental Hygiene Legal Service  
Goshen, Orange County

**CLASSIFICATION:** Non-Competitive/Confidential



**ASSIGNMENT:** The Mental Hygiene Legal Service ("MHLS") provides legal representation and advocacy to individuals with mental and developmental disabilities, and those *alleged* to be in need of mental health services, in legal matters including civil and criminal commitment, treatment over objection, guardianship, sex offender civil management, and assisted outpatient treatment. MHLS attorneys regularly appear in the New York courts in difficult cases concerning involuntary hospitalization and psychiatric treatment. This position involves frequent fieldwork, including meeting with clients at psychiatric hospitals, other facilities or private residences. In addition, MHLS attorneys advocate informally on behalf of clients and represent them at administrative hearings. Some litigation experience is preferred, but not required.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by persons assigned to this title. They do not include all job duties performed by employees in the title, and every position does not necessarily require these duties. Although a position is available and situated at a specific location, the appointee may be subject to reassignment to any position in the same title in this promotion unit dependent upon the needs of the Unified Court System. All applications received from this announcement may be used to fill any vacancies in this title that may occur in this court or agency within the next six (6) months. Position(s) available at the present time: 1.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** All interested persons meeting the minimum qualifications are encouraged to submit a UCS-5 Application for Employment form (obtainable from any administrative office in a court building or on the web at [www.nycourts.gov/careers/UCS5.pdf](http://www.nycourts.gov/careers/UCS5.pdf)) and a resume and cover letter by email to [MHLS2-HR@nycourts.gov](mailto:MHLS2-HR@nycourts.gov) or by mail to:

Michael Neville  
Director  
Mental Hygiene Legal Service  
600 Old Country Road, Suite 224  
Garden City, NY 11530

**[APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY DATA COLLECTION FORM.](#)**

**POSTING DATE:** March 25, 2024

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY:** April 22, 2024

**The New York State Unified Court System is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender (including pregnancy and gender identity or expression), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.**

## ADDITIONAL JOBS WITH MENTAL HYGIENE LEGAL SERVICES

Attorney, Senior Attorney, Associate Attorney at Woodhull Medical Center, Kings County.

The Application Process is the same as that for the Rockland and Orange County Positions.

The deadline is April 10, 2024.

The Application for all of these positions is available here: <https://ww2.nycourts.gov/sites/default/files/document/files/2024-01/UCS-5.pdf>

For more information on job openings in the NYS Court System, visit: <https://ww2.nycourts.gov/careers>





UCS-23

EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

**PLEASE POST**

ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 1431

**POSITION TITLE:** COORDINATOR OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAMS **JG:** NS**LOCATION:** OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION  
NY, NY or CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON**BASE SALARY:** \$120,000 - \$150,000 + \$4,775 Location Pay (NYC ONLY)**CLASSIFICATION:** EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Admission to the Bar and five (5) years of relevant experience; or Master's degree in Public or Business Administration from an accredited college or university and seven (7) years of relevant experience; or An equivalent combination of education and experience. **Candidates with a J.D. or Master's degree and knowledge of the litigation process are encouraged to apply.**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:** The Coordinator of Dispute Resolution Programs works under the general direction of the Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution, and is responsible for implementation of the court-annexed Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) programs and the Community Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) established pursuant to Article 21-A of the Judiciary Law. The Coordinator oversees all dispute resolution projects, establishes guidelines for qualification of neutrals throughout the Unified Court System, develops and implements standards and procedures for monitoring the performance of court-annexed dispute resolution programs, and performs related duties.

**ASSIGNMENT:** Under the supervision of the Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), the Coordinator is responsible for developing, supporting, monitoring, and promoting the development and use of ADR programs throughout the NYS Unified Court System. The Coordinator supports the Director of ADR in evaluating the use of ADR throughout the courts, overseeing Data Collection, Monitoring, and Research, Education and Training, and Programs, such as the statewide network of Community Dispute Resolution Centers Program (CDRCP), the statewide Attorney-Client Fee Dispute Resolution Program. Duties include, but are not limited to: working with Judges, administrators, and court staff in developing, implementing, and monitoring court-sponsored ADR programs, training judicial and non-judicial court staff, as well as mediators, volunteers, and other stakeholders, developing and implementing statewide standards and procedures. Duties also include engaging in strategic planning and resource allocation to support the mission of the courts; fiscal management; managing staff, pursuing goals and objectives, and reviewing progress in meeting objectives.

Knowledge is required of ADR processes such as: mediation, arbitration, neutral evaluation, restorative justice, and settlement conferencing. Candidates must have extensive ADR experience and proven accomplishment in the field leading the implementation of ADR initiatives and programs. Travel throughout the state is required.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by persons assigned to this title. They do not include all job duties performed by employees in the title, and every position does not necessarily require these duties. Although a position is available and situated at a specific location, the appointee may be subject to reassignment to any position in the same title in this promotion unit dependent upon the needs of the Unified Court System. All applications received from this announcement may be used to fill any vacancies in this title that may occur in this court or agency within the next six (6) months. Position(s) available at the present time: 1

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES:** All interested persons meeting the minimum qualifications are encouraged to submit a UCS-5 Application for Employment form (obtainable from any administrative office in a court building or on the web at [www.nycourts.gov/careers/UCS5.pdf](http://www.nycourts.gov/careers/UCS5.pdf)) and a resume with cover letter by email to [ADRDivisionPostings@nycourts.gov](mailto:ADRDivisionPostings@nycourts.gov) or mail to:

Lisa M. Courtney  
Director, Division of ADR  
25 Beaver Street, Room 845  
New York, NY 10004

**APPLICANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COMPLETE THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY DATA COLLECTION FORM.**

**POSTING DATE:** March 27, 2024**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY:** April 24, 2024

## RCBA IS LOOKING FOR ADVERTISERS AND SPONSORS

Dear RCBA Member,

Who are your favorite vendors?

Do you work with a process server, private investigator, translator, title company or court reporting company?

The RCBA offers these businesses several ways to promote themselves to local attorneys. They can become Affiliate members, advertise on our website or in the Newsbrief, or sponsor one or more CLE programs or special events.

If you have a favorite business, please let us know.

Contact Barbara at [Barbara@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@rocklandbar.org) with their contact information so we can reach out to them about these opportunities.

**NEW INCENTIVE FOR YOU!** As an added incentive, when a business you referred becomes a Sponsor or places an ad with us, you will be given one free online CLE session. So... review your contacts now and help us promote their business!



Contact: Barbara Silverstone

[Barbara@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@rocklandbar.org)

845-634-2149

**We thank our RCBA Supporters.  
For information on advertising  
in the Newsbrief, see page 36**

The Law Offices of

**Allen A. Kolber, Esq.**

134 Route 59  
Suffern, NY 10901

Tel: 845-918-1277  
email: [akolber@kolberlegal.com](mailto:akolber@kolberlegal.com)  
[www.KolberLegal.com](http://www.KolberLegal.com)

- Bankruptcy Law and Litigation
  - Business Law and Litigation
  - Loan Modifications/Short Sales
  - Foreclosure Defense
- We have over 30 years legal experience



# SPREAD THE WORD

ADVERTISE WITH THE  
ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR  
ASSOCIATION  
HELP CELEBRATE OUR 130TH  
ANNIVERSARY!

CHECK OUT THE  
VARIOUS OPTIONS TO  
ADVERTISE YOUR  
PRACTICE OR  
SERVICES

IN THE **RATES START AT**  
NEWSBRIEF **\$50 PER MONTH**

ON THE **RATES START**  
WEBPAGE **AT \$75 FOR 3**  
**MONTHS**

AT AN EVENT **RATES START**  
**AT \$350**

## MORE INFORMATION

 845-634-2149

 [Barbara@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@rocklandbar.org)

 [www.rocklandbar.org](http://www.rocklandbar.org)



## ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

[WWW.ROCKLANDBAR.ORG](http://WWW.ROCKLANDBAR.ORG)

845-634-2149



Rockland County Bar Association

*Promoting equal access to justice and greater understanding of the law.*





## **NEWSBRIEF ADVERTISING RATES**

### **NEWSBRIEF ADVERTISING RATES**

**Discounts: 10% for 6 mo. bookings, 20% for 1 year bookings. Must be paid for in advance**

<b>AD SIZE</b>	<b>REGULAR RATE</b>
<b>FULL PAGE (7.5x10.25)</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>1/2 PAGE (7.5x5):</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>1/4 PAGE (3.75x5):</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>1/8 PAGE (3.75x2.5):</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>
<b>BUSINESS CARD:</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**RCBA Members – free, up to 50 words; 51 to 100 words, cost is \$75.00.**

**Non-Members, cost is \$50 for up to 50 words; 51 to 100 words, cost is \$100.**

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**NEWSBRIEF IS NOT PUBLISHED IN JULY**

**CALL BARBARA @ 845-634-2149 or send email to [Barbara@Rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@Rocklandbar.org)**

**TO ADVERTISE IN NEWSBRIEF**

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

**Association.**

**All advertisements and articles must be reviewed by the Executive Committee for content.**



## CLE CORNER

### SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE CLE PROGRAMS!

**April 26, 2024. 12:30 p.m.— 2:00 p.m. What To Do when Divorce Leads to Bankruptcy (Can I Still Collect My Attorneys' Fees?)** Speakers will be Elizabeth Haas, Esq. and Dawn Kirby, Esq. This program will be presented on Zoom. [Register here.](#)

**May 2, 2024. 12:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m. A Primer on Estate Practice.** The speakers will be Courtney Boniface, Esq. and Amanda Henderson, Esq. This program will be presented on Zoom.

**May 10, 2024. 9:30 p.m.—12:30 p.m. CPLR Update 2024.** Mark your calendar for the popular annual program. The speaker will be Professor Patrick Connors. This program will be presented on Zoom.

**May 15, 2024. 12:00 p.m — 2:00 p.m. Challenging and Controverting Search Warrants.** The speaker will be Hon. Michael Bongiorno. This program will be presented at the JCC Rockland. Lunch is included.

**May 21, 2024. The Life of a Workers' Compensation Claim,** presented by Valerie Crown, Esq. This program will be presented on Zoom.

**Watch your emails for additional information and registration.**

*Remember, RCBA Members receive a discounted registration fee for all CLE programs*



# CLE REQUIREMENTS

## 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.

### NEW CLE REQUIREMENT - CYBERSECURITY:

Effective January 1, 2023 - New Category of CLE Credit - Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection: A new category of CLE credit - Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection - has been added to the CLE Program Rules. This category is defined in the [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.2\(h\)](#) and clarified in the [Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection FAQs](#) and [Guidance document](#). Providers may issue credit in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection to attorneys who complete courses in this new category on or after January 1, 2023.

In addition to ethics and professionalism, skills, law practice management, areas of professional practice, and diversity, inclusion and elimination of bias courses, there is a new category for cybersecurity, privacy and data protection. This category of credit is effective January 1, 2023.

Experienced attorneys due to re-register on or after July 1, 2023 must complete at least one credit hour in the Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection CLE category of credit as part of their biennial CLE requirement. Newly admitted attorneys need not comply if admitted prior to July 1, 2023 in their newly admitted cycle, but must comply in future reporting cycles. Attorneys admitted on or after July 1, 2023, must complete the 1 CLE credit hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection as part of their new admitted attorney cycle. For more information about the CLE Rules, visit [nycourts.gov/Attorneys/CLE](https://nycourts.gov/Attorneys/CLE).

See [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.22\(a\)](#).

Effective July 1, 2023 - Change to Newly Admitted Attorney CLE Requirement to Include One Credit Hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection: Newly admitted attorneys whose admission to the NY Bar is on or after July 1, 2023 must complete at least 1 CLE credit hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection as part of their CLE requirement. See [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.12\(a\)](#).

Attorneys may apply a maximum of three (3) credit hours of cybersecurity, privacy and data protection-ethics to the four-credit hour ethics and professionalism requirement.

### FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY:

RCBA members and non-members may apply for tuition assistance to attend Association continuing legal education programs based on financial hardship. Any member or non-member of our Association who has a genuine financial hardship may apply in writing, no later than five working days prior to the program, explaining the basis of his/her hardship, and, if approved, may receive tuition assistance, depending on the circumstances.



# CLE UPDATE

## CYBERSECURITY REQUIREMENT

---

### **Effective January 1, 2023 - New Category of CLE Credit - Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data**

**Protection:** A new category of CLE credit - Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection - has been added to the CLE Program Rules. This category is defined in the [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.2\(h\)](#) and clarified in the [Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection FAQs](#) and [Guidance document](#). Providers may issue credit in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection to attorneys who complete courses in this new category on or after January 1, 2023.

### **Effective July 1, 2023 - Change to Experienced Attorney Biennial CLE Requirement to Include One**

**Credit Hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection:** Experienced attorneys due to re-register on or after July 1, 2023 (birthday is on or after July 1st) must complete at least 1 CLE credit hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection as part of their biennial CLE requirement. See [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.22\(a\)](#).

### **Effective July 1, 2023 - Change to Newly Admitted Attorney CLE Requirement to Include One**

**Credit Hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection:** Newly admitted attorneys whose admission to the NY Bar is on or after July 1, 2023 must complete at least 1 CLE credit hour in Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection as part of their CLE requirement. See [CLE Program Rules 22 NYCRR 1500.12\(a\)](#).

Attorneys may apply a maximum of three (3) credit hours of cybersecurity, privacy and data protection-ethics to the four-credit hour ethics and professionalism requirement.

---



# COMMITTEE CORNER

The Rockland County Bar Association has 26 active committees, plus several *ad hoc* committees. Members may join these committees and volunteer their time and expertise for the good of the Bar Association, their colleagues and the public. Here are some of the activities! We look forward to seeing you!

## NEW LAWYERS AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Nicole DiGiacomo is the new Co-Chair of this Committee and she is looking for new members. The Committee will engage newly admitted attorneys as well as seasoned attorneys who are interested in mentoring those newly admitted.

If you are interested in joining this reinvigorated Committee, please email Nancy at [Nancy@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Nancy@rocklandbar.org)

## PRO BONO COMMITTEE

This newly established Committee will be meeting soon. If you are interested in joining this Committee, please email Nancy at [Nancy@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Nancy@rocklandbar.org)

## IMMIGRATION LAW COMMITTEE

Immigration Law is a critical component of our system of laws. We are pleased to announce that the Rockland County Bar Association is relaunching the Immigration Committee. The committee is being co-chaired by two experienced immigration attorneys, Ivon Anaya, Esq. and Crismelly Morales, Esq. Given the recent influx of Immigration in our community, we are excited to provide insight and updated information about Immigration Law to the members of the Bar Association and our community.

We are looking for new members! If you are interested in joining our committee, please email Ivon at [Ianaya@centersc.org](mailto:Ianaya@centersc.org) and Crismelly at [Crismelly@cmoraleslaw.com](mailto:Crismelly@cmoraleslaw.com) to express your interest. Stay tuned for our future meetings and events!

## PERSONAL INJURY & COMPENSATION LAW COMMITTEE

Your Rockland County Bar Association Personal Injury & Compensation Law (Negligence) Committee regularly meets via zoom. If you are not yet a member and wish to join our committee, please contact the association. If you have a topic that you think may be of interest to the committee, please let us know.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 15 2024, 5:00 p.m. The committee meeting will be held on Zoom.

If you are not on the committee and are interested in participating in one of these meetings, please contact us.

Thank you, [Jeffrey Adams](#) (Chair) & [Valerie Crown](#) (Co-Chair)

# 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 [Barbara@rocklandbar.org](mailto:Barbara@rocklandbar.org) by the 15th of the month so that the Executive Board may review it.

Thank you!



Monthly  
Newsletter

Still not a member? Join Now!

2024 RCBA LAWYER  
REFERRAL SERVICE

[Visit us online!](http://www.Rocklandbar.org)

[www.Rocklandbar.org](http://www.Rocklandbar.org)

RCBA STORE





**Part Time Paralegal / Legal Assistant**

In person and/or virtual; Surrogate filings personal injury matters; complex personal injury matters; salary commensurate with experience.

Contact: [jeff@injurylaw-ny.com](mailto:jeff@injurylaw-ny.com)

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE**

A beautiful office is available at 146 Maple Avenue, New City. Four other lawyers rent space in the building. Access to conference room, kitchen and rest rooms. Ample parking. Call Joel @845-248-2410 or email: [joelwerzberger123@gmail.com](mailto:joelwerzberger123@gmail.com).

**OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE**

The Law Office of L'Tanya M. Watkins located in New City has several offices available in large suite with conference area and kitchen space.

Rent terms are flexible. Great opportunity for an attorney looking to downsize office space or share space. Call L'Tanya @845 -721-3327, or email:

[lwatkinsesq@optonline.net](mailto:lwatkinsesq@optonline.net).

**ATORNEY POSITION AVAILABLE**

**Feerick Nugent MacCartney** (South Nyack) seeking NYS admitted attorney with at least 18 months experience with interest in local government, municipal and labor law. Position is full-time, requiring attendance at nightly municipal board meetings (Town/Village). Benefits available. Starting salary depends on applicant's qualifications - \$90,000 to \$120,000. Will consider higher starting salary commensurate with experience. To apply, contact Shannon at

[shannond@fnmlawfirm.com](mailto:shannond@fnmlawfirm.com)

**Matrimonial/Family Law Attorney**

Rockland County, NY law firm specializing in matrimonial and family law is seeking a full time associate. Excellent writing skills, trial experience and fluent Spanish speaking a plus. Starting salary range is \$55,000.00 to \$85,000.00+. Please call 845.639.4600 or fax resume to 845.639.4610 or E-mail: [michael@demoyalaw.com](mailto:michael@demoyalaw.com)

**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. All RCC students are trained to work virtually and proficient in virtual computer programs. Contact Amy Hurwitz-Placement Coordinator at (845) 574-4418 or email at

[amy.hurwitz@sunyrockland.edu](mailto:amy.hurwitz@sunyrockland.edu)

**IMMIGRATION ATTORNEY WANTED**

Rockland County, law firm is seeking a full time associate with immigration experience. Trial experience, Spanish speaking, admitted to SDNY and willingness to assist with bankruptcy and loan modifications a plus. Starting salary range is \$55,000.00 to \$85,000.00+.

Call 845.639.4600 or fax resume to 845.639.4610 or

E-mail: [michael@demoyalaw.com](mailto:michael@demoyalaw.com) .

# OUR RCBA 2023-24 MAJOR SPONSORS

SILVER: M&T BANK

BRONZE: VERITEXT LEGAL  
SOLUTIONS



M&T Bank

Understanding what's important®



VERITEXT  
LEGAL SOLUTIONS

*Thank You*  
to our Sponsors!