



Rockland County Bar Association

337 North Main Street, Suite 1; New City, NY 10956; rocklandbar.org

NEWSBRIEF

NOVEMBER 2025

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From the President

"Oh Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz? My friends all drive Porsches, I must make amends."

Janis Joplin, "Pearl"

This year commemorates the fifty-fifth anniversary of Janis Joplin's death. She was an iconic singer-songwriter of the late 1960's who could flat-out wail. I hadn't really thought of Janis Joplin for some time until I recently stumbled upon an old photograph of "Pearl" (circa 1969), joyfully perched on the hood of her beloved psychedelic Porsche – a happy image that masked any hint of trouble. She died of a heroin overdose on October 4, 1970, at age 27.

Reflecting on that tragedy, we're reminded that our profession is not, and has never been, immune from the pain of addiction and mental health challenges. One-in-five practicing lawyers report having a drinking problem – which is *three times* the national average. Though less prevalent than alcohol use, other substance addictions also afflict legal professionals.

Early intervention can make a big difference. The New York State Bar Association's Lawyer Assistance Program (LAP) serves as a resource to the profession offering confidential in-person and on-line screening, support and guidance. The LAP 24/7 hotline is (877) 772-8836; and NYSBA members can receive free counseling sessions. On December 4, 2025, from 12:30–1:30 p.m., RCBA will host a 1-hour, on-line CLE presented by the LAP's staff who will discuss concepts of work/life balance, physical and emotional well-ness, and the assistance programs available to the legal community.

About 150 +/- of our friends and colleagues, gathered on October 23 for the Association's Annual Dinner Gala which was hosted at Nyack Seaport, to join in celebrating the evening's awards recipients and our honored guest. Each honoree imparted – in their own way – a simple life's lesson gleaned from their different experiences.

Associate Justice Linda Christopher spoke of the real professional and personal benefits to be garnered from community involvement and the nurturing of professional relationships. Our Natalie Couch Award recipient, Rockland Family Court Judge Andrea Composto, emphasized the deep satisfaction she's realized – and the importance of – sharing and "paying forward" the support, inclusion and love that was gifted to her. At ninety-years young, Lenny Birbrower's Lifetime Achievements are highlighted by so many lasting friendships and affiliations. Decades of professional successes, volunteerism, and Lenny's ballroom prowess, illuminate a path of fulfillment rarely enjoyed by others. The "secret" – according to Lenny – is to listen for the music of life and dance to the tune!

Kudos to this year's dinner committee (Board members Jay Golland, Will Warren & Rob Fellows), and thank you for "a job well done!" to RCBA executive director Veronica and staff, Tiffany and Jeanmarie, for a memorable, fun evening; thanks also to "Old No. 7," (the band).

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Save the date: Together with the RCWBA, we are hosting this year's RCBA holiday party at La Terrazza in New City, on **December 18, 2025**, from 5:30 to ??? We will eat and drink together and share the friendship of the Season through our human connection that cannot be replicated via the internet. Check out the Holiday Party invitation in this month's newsletter.

This year, maybe more than ever before, the world appears upside-down and, at times, altogether unrecognizable. But I believe that – looking around – we here (in America) still have a lot to be grateful for. And I think that when we visit with family and friends – some of whom we may not have seen or even communicated with for a while – over Thanksgiving 2025, we should embrace our common attributes and our love of one another. In the end, isn't that all that really matters?

Happy Thanksgiving.

West Nyack, New York
November 1, 2025

Respectfully,

Rick

Richard A. Glickel
RCBA President, 2025-26
rglickel@glickelaw.com

THE PRACTICE PAGE

DISMISSAL FOR THE ABSENCE OF NECESSARY PARTIES: IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE OTHERS

Hon. Mark C. Dillon *

One of the best-known provisions in our procedural rules is the motion to dismiss statute, CPLR 3211(a). It has eleven categorized subdivisions of defenses under which defendants may move to dismiss complaints in lieu of an answer. If we play the game of “Which Doesn’t Look Like the Other,” all of the eleven subdivisions permit a court to grant the outright dismissal of complaints except for one --- CPLR 3211(a)(10), which regards the plaintiff’s alleged failure to name a necessary party in the action.

CPLR 3211(10) is governed by unique standards and burdens of proof. The specific statutory language addresses whether “the court should not proceed in the absence of a person who should be a party.” The statute cannot be understood without also taking into account CPLR 1001. A necessary party is defined in CPLR 1001(a) as “[p]ersons who ought to be parties if complete relief is to be accorded between the persons who are [already] parties or who might be inequitably affected by a judgment in the action.”

The court’s decision on a dismissal motion for the absence of a necessary party is not a simple grant or deny. The court, in deciding a CPLR 3211(10) motion, must engage in a singularly-unique three-step analysis. The first step of the analysis is to determine whether a particular non-party is, in fact, “necessary” for complete relief to be accorded in the action. If the non-party is not necessary, the court’s analysis ends and the defendant’s CPLR 3211(a)(10) motion should be denied (*U.S. Bank Trust, N.A. v Gaines*, 189 AD3d 1312 [2d Dep’t. 2020]).

If the court determines that the non-party is necessary as defined by CPLR 1001(a), it must then examine whether the non-party is subject to the jurisdiction of the court. If a necessary non-party is subject to the court’s general or specific jurisdiction, the defendant’s CPLR 3211(a)(10) motion will be denied in favor of having the non-party “summoned” into the case (*Deutsche Bank National Trust Company v Bandalos*, 173 AD3d 1136 [2d Dep’t. 2019]). Indeed, CPLR 1001(b) provides that any such non-party subject to the court’s jurisdiction “shall” be summoned, which has the effect of shutting down any notion of dismissing the action for the absence of the necessary party. In other words, CPLR 3211(10) and 1001(b) are designed to preserve actions and avoid dismissals, if the absence of the necessary party can be cured by bringing that party into the case. But CPLR 1001(b) does not circumvent the protections afforded to necessary parties by the statute of limitations (*Matter of Mount Pleasant Cottage School Union Free School Dist. v Sobol*, 163 AD2d 715 [3d Dep’t. 1990]).

If the necessary party is not subject to the jurisdiction of the court and cannot be summoned into the court, CPLR 1001(b) provides the court with a binary choice: it may deny the dismissal motion and allow the action to proceed without the necessary party, or it may dismiss the action because of the necessary party’s absence. In making that determination, CPLR 1001(b) requires the court to consider five factors; namely, 1) whether the plaintiff has another effective remedy if the action is dismissed, 2) the degree of prejudice to the defendant or the non-party, 3) whether prejudice may now or in the future be avoided, 4) the feasibility of a protective order or judgment to mitigate the necessary party’s absence, and 5) whether an effective judgment may be rendered in the absence of the necessary party. No single factor is determinative (*Red Hook/Gowanus Chamber of Commerce v New York City Bd. of Standards and Appeals*, 5 NY3d 452 [2005]). A dismissal of the action is to be a last resort (*JP Morgan Chase, National Association v Salvage*, 171 AD3d 438 [1st Dep’t. 2019]).

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The foregoing demonstrates that defendants may only obtain an action's dismissal for the absence of a necessary party if all of three requirements are first established --- that the non-party is truly "necessary," that it not be subject to the jurisdiction of the court, and that upon the balancing of factors the action should not proceed anyway without the necessary party. These burdens and hurdles significantly limit the number of instances where the dismissal of complaints under CPLR 3211(a)(10) are actually granted.

The absence of a necessary party is not among the defined affirmative defenses that are waived if not timely asserted in an answer or in a CPLR 3211(a) dismissal motion. Indeed, CPLR 3211[e] provides that the necessary party defense may be raised "at any time or in a later pleading, if permitted, or even by the court at its own initiative" (*Migliore v Manzo*, 28 AD3d 620 [2d Dep't. 2006]).

If there are two parallel actions commenced by the same plaintiff against two separate defendants, involving the same occurrence with common questions of fact and law, a joinder of the actions under CPLR 602(a) may cure the absence of one defendant as a necessary party in the other action (*Ashwood v Uber USA, LLC*, 219 AD3d 1289 [2d Dep't. 2023]). This also underscores how necessary party dismissals are truly a last resort for the courts.

The dismissal motion under CPLR 3211(a)(10) is a zebra among horses, similar but different. It's standards and considerations are unique.

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



Succession



The “Eat What You Kill” Myth in Lateral Moves

By Judith Bachman, Esq.

“Eat what you kill.” The phrase gets tossed around law firms as if it guarantees fairness and prosperity. The concept, that you’re rewarded purely for the business you bring in, has an undeniable appeal, especially to entrepreneurial lawyers. But when recruiters come calling with promises of higher compensation, better support, and fewer headaches, it’s worth pausing to ask what you’d actually be giving up.

Over the years, I’ve been approached by multiple firms of varying sizes, some with ten lawyers, others with five hundred or more. Each one emphasized the same points: their “platform,” their “infrastructure,” their “team.” It’s flattering, but also a little suspicious. If these firms are thriving, why do they “need” me so badly? The answer, I suspect, lies in the myth itself.

The Lure of the Larger Firm

For solos and small-firm partners, the appeal of joining a bigger shop is obvious. Administrative headaches disappear. There’s a billing department, IT support, and someone else to worry about leases and insurance. You may gain cross-selling opportunities and an impressive brand name. And if your clients can benefit from broader services, tax, IP, or regulatory counsel, a larger firm can be a logical next step.

For lawyers nearing retirement, a lateral move can even be an ideal off-ramp. Depending on the compensation formula, joining a firm with an “eat what you kill” structure can allow you to wind down gracefully, maintaining client service and income without the weight of ownership, management, or transition logistics.

The Hidden Costs

But the trade-offs are real. Moving from owner to employee or “income partner” means surrendering control, including over rates, staffing, and even which clients you can take. Your income may shrink through internal formulas that reward bureaucracy more than hustle. The firm may tout “eat what you kill,” but by the time overhead, administrative fees, and hierarchy take their share, there’s not much left on the plate.

And don’t assume that a bigger firm automatically means better support. Many big firms are just as staffing challenged as smaller practices. Recruiting and retaining quality associates is difficult everywhere. Even when firms have strong junior lawyers, the best ones are often already “spoken for” by senior partners with larger books of business. So the support that sounds abundant in theory may, in practice, be spread thin or unavailable when you need it most.

Do the Math and Ask the Questions

Before making a move, treat the recruiter’s pitch as you would any other opportunity. Ask hard questions: How is origination credit defined and divided? What is the average realization rate at your level? Who actually “owns” the client relationship? What is the firm’s real capacity to staff matters promptly and competently?

It’s also worth reflecting on non-financial factors. Will you be happier giving up autonomy for structure? Will your entrepreneurial instincts thrive or chafe under new reporting lines? Will the culture suit your clients and your temperament?

The Real Bottom Line

There’s nothing wrong with exploring a lateral move. For some, it’s the perfect fit: more resources, less overhead, and, for those planning retirement, a softer landing. But don’t confuse the promise of a bigger table with a better meal. The “eat what you kill” model sounds liberating until you realize how many others are already eating from the same plate.

*RCBA/RCWBA
HOLIDAY PARTY*

*Save the
Date!*

*18 DECEMBER 2025
LA TERRAZZA
NEW CITY, NY*



Native American Women In The Law

November is designated Native American Heritage Month where we honor the history, culture and contributions of indigenous people in the United States. The DEI Committee Celebrates Native American Heritage Month by highlighting the following notable Native American female attorneys and judges.

Eliza "Lyda" Burton Conley (1869-1946) - A Wyandotte Nation member who became the first Native American woman lawyer, graduating from Kansas City School of Law in 1902. She made history again in 1910 as the first Native American woman to argue before the Supreme Court in *Conley v. Ballinger*, defending the Huron Cemetery (now Wyandot National Burying Ground) from commercial development. Though she lost the case, she and her sisters physically guarded the cemetery for years. She was buried there in 1946, and the site became a National Historic Landmark in 2016.

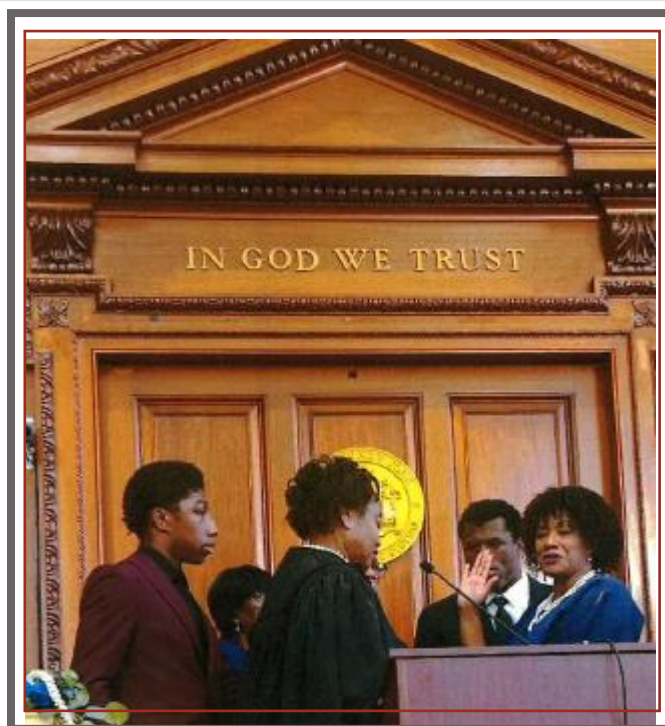
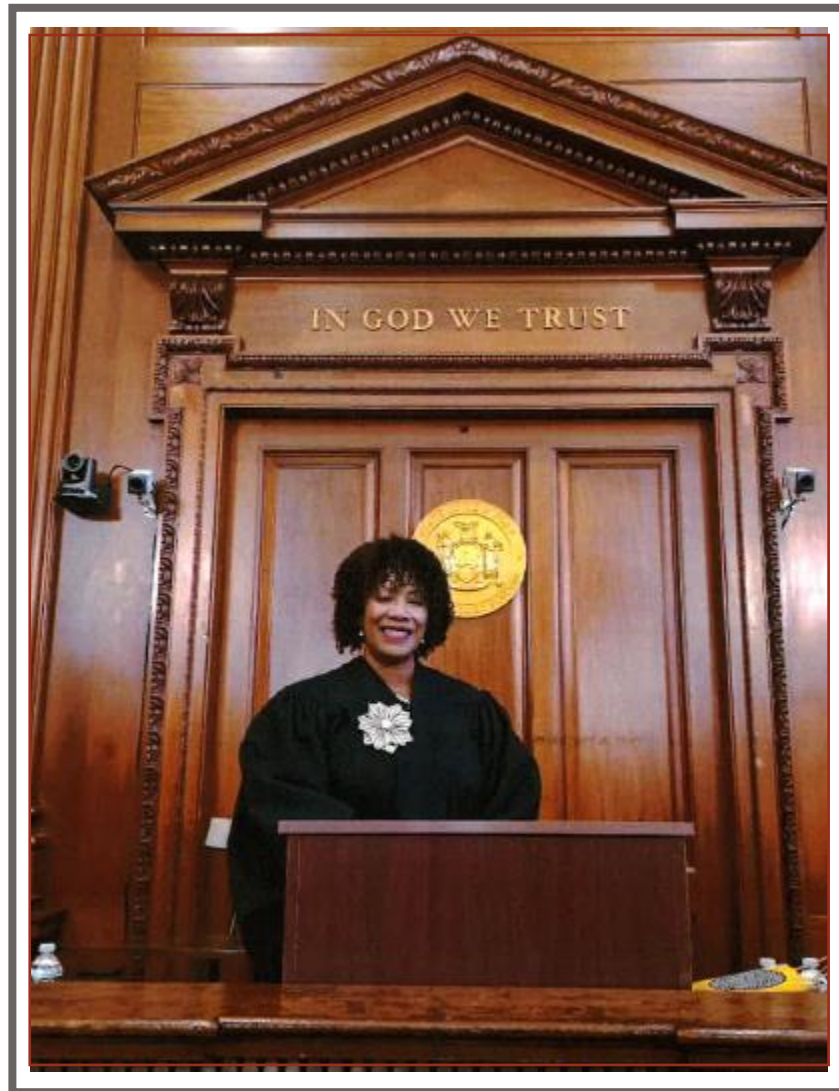
Margaret Seelye Treuer (1943-2020) - An Ojibwe woman who transitioned from nursing to law after advocating for tribal rights. She became Minnesota's first Native American attorney in 1977 and the first Native American woman judge in 1983 as a U.S. Magistrate. She later served as chief judge for multiple tribal courts and testified before the Senate on inadequate funding for tribal justice systems.

Anne K. McKeig (1967-) - A White Earth Nation member who specialized in Indian Child Welfare Act cases before becoming the first Native American woman appointed to a state supreme court (Minnesota) in 2016. She has focused on child protection and indigenous justice issues throughout her career.

Diane Humetewa (1964-) - A Hopi Tribe member who became the first Native American woman U.S. Attorney (2007) and the first Native American woman confirmed as a federal judge (2014). She has worked extensively on codifying tribal customs and advocating for indigenous legal rights.

Source: <https://blogs.loc.gov/law/2024/11/a-short-history-of-the-first-native-american-women-lawyers-and-judges-in-the-united-states/>

RCBA congratulates the Hon. Mary Lynn Nicolas-Brewster, past recipient of RCBA's Natalie Couch Award and Committee Chair of the Year Award on her installation as Judge of the Court of Claims on October 23, 2025. Judge Nicolas-Brewster is an acting Supreme Court Justice assigned to Supreme Court, Bronx County.



COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ISSUES OF INTEREST

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

Your client owns property in a mixed commercial zoning district and wants to build a large warehouse facility – a use expressly permitted in the zone, subject to site plan approval and special permit. After months of environmental review under SEQRA, the planning board issued a negative declaration, concluding the project will have no significant adverse environmental impact. The board found that concerns about traffic, aesthetics, noise, and community character were adequately mitigated, and were consistent with community character and the Town's Zoning Code and Comprehensive Plan.

A month later, the planning board held a public hearing on the required application for a special permit. Residents living nearby voiced passionate opposition about visual impacts, noise, traffic, and property values. The board required additional studies, which largely confirmed the prior findings. Nonetheless, the board denied the permit, finding that the property was next to a residential neighborhood and was not compatible with the surroundings. You bring an Article 78 proceeding, arguing that the denial of the permit was arbitrary and capricious.

Will you succeed in annulling the denial?

The answer is *yes*.

In *VA RT 6 LLC v. Town of Wawayanda Planning Board*, Index No. EF004471-2025 (Sup. Ct. Orange Co. Oct. 22, 2025), the petitioner sought approval of a 400,000 square-foot warehouse facility in the town's MC-1 (Mixed Commercial) zoning district, where warehouses are permitted uses subject to site plan approval and a special permit. The site was surrounded largely by commercial and industrial uses, including a town-approved power plant with cooling stacks exceeding 100 feet in height. Residential uses bordered the property.

After extensive environmental review, the planning board issued a determination of non-significance under SEQRA. The board found the project consistent with the town's comprehensive plan, which specifically sought to locate commercial and industrial uses in this district. The project complied with all zoning requirements and was actually smaller and set farther back from lot lines than allowed.

The board addressed aesthetic concerns, acknowledging the building would be visible from some vantage points but concluding this was not significant because warehouses are an allowed use and such impacts were "reasonably expected and permitted in this area." The board required extensive mitigation measures and concluded that with the mitigation measures, most of the building facing residential areas would be completely screened within five years. Board members affirmed that "this board has reviewed and addressed all potential impacts. There are no outstanding unmitigated impacts."

Residents challenged these findings in Court. Shortly before the petitioner brought this proceeding, the Court upheld the board's earlier negative declaration.

One month after the board's negative declaration, it opened a public hearing on the special permit. Residents raised concerns about visual impacts, noise, property values, and warehouse proliferation. The board required a balloon study, which confirmed the prior visualizations. Residents continued raising the same concerns and questioned the board's SEQRA determinations.

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Several months later, after continuing the hearing multiple times, the planning board denied the special permit, citing the same issues previously found to be adequately mitigated – building size, visual impacts, proximity to residential properties, inadequate setbacks (despite exceeding code requirements), lack of an updated noise study – and unspecified strain on infrastructure.

The Court found the denial arbitrary and capricious. When a use is classified as permitted in a zoning district, this reflects "a legislative finding that the permitted use is in harmony with the general zoning plan." While planning boards retain discretion, decisions must be supported by substantial evidence and may not be based on "generalized community opposition," quoting *Matter of Twin County Recycling Corp. v. Yevoli*, 90 N.Y.2d 1000, 1002 (1997).

Critically, the court noted that "the same agency must generally adhere to its own precedent absent substantial evidence warranting a change," citing *Matter of Campo Grandchildren Tr. v. Colson*, 39 A.D.3d 746 (2d Dep't. 2007). The board reviewed all the same concerns during SEQRA, concluded they were fully mitigated, and then relied on those same concerns to deny the special permit without substantial new evidence. The Court found the board "appears to have bowed exclusively to community pressure that accelerated after its detailed and comprehensive negative declaration."

The Court emphasized that many of the alleged concerns were essentially denying a special permit for a permitted use, citing *Matter of Holbrook Assoc. Dev. Co. v. McGowan*, 261 A.D.2d 620, 621 (2d Dep't. 1999). The Court acknowledged that boards and communities may strain against the Town's legislative enactments, including the zoning code, the bulk table, and a comprehensive plan, which "specifically include these uses in this area, notwithstanding the existing residential areas." But until the Town Board amends the Town Code, "the Planning Board may not simply deny an otherwise permitted use due to community opposition."

The court granted the petition and ordered the board to issue the special permit.

The lesson? If you represent an applicant before a municipal planning board, the best protection against the board bowing to public pressure is to be sure the record before the board includes evidence addressing all concerns of the public and the board. If the board nonetheless bows to public pressure, the court will have the evidence it needs to find the determination arbitrary and capricious.

*By Joseph Churgin, Esq. and Susan Cooper, Esq. of

SAVAD CHURGIN, LLP, Attorneys at Law

6 Tips On How To Discuss Your Mental Health With Others

By: Stan Popovich



It can be frustrating to struggle with your mental health and to get your family and friends to understand where you are coming from.

Although most people may be understanding, there is usually one or two people who will make things more challenging for you.

As a result, here are six suggestions on how to deal with the people you know regarding your mental health situation.

- 1. Listen to the professionals:** Your friends may mean well, but when it comes down to it, the professionals are aware of your circumstances more than anyone. It is important that you listen and follow the advice from your doctor or medical professional rather than following the advice from your friends and other people you may know.
- 2. Don't argue with others:** It is important that you do not get into arguments with those who are giving you a tough time. It is not your job to worry about how others may view your circumstances. Focus on managing your mental health rather than trying to get everyone's approval.
- 3. Choose your friends wisely:** Distance yourself from those who won't make an effort to help understand what you are going through. You need to surround yourself with positive and supportive people. If you have problems or issues with a particular person, then it's best to keep your distance and hang out with those people who are more supportive.
- 4. Attend a mental health support group:** There are many mental health awareness support groups in any given area. Many hospitals, churches, and counselors in your area will be able to provide you with a list of these organizations. These groups will be aware of your situation and can give you additional advice regarding your concerns.
- 5. You are not alone:** There are millions of people around the world who struggle with their fears, anxieties, and depression. Many of your relatives and friends more than likely struggled with anxiety and stress sometime in their life. Do not feel that you are alone when it comes to your mental health situation because there are all kinds of people around you who can relate.
- 6. Your goal is to get better:** Focus on how you can handle the anxieties and stresses in your life rather than arguing with others who are giving you a difficult time. This isn't a public relations event where you need to get approval from everyone. This is your life, and you need to be more concerned about getting your life back on track rather than pleasing everyone else.

BIOGRAPHY

Stan is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear" which covers a variety of techniques that can drastically improve your mental health. For more information, please visit Stan's website at <http://www.managingfear.com>

Take a small break to unwind

Sometimes we get stressed out when everything happens all at once. When this happens, a person should take a deep breath and try to find something to do for a few minutes to get his or her mind off of the problem. A person could get some fresh air, listen to some music, or do an activity that will give a fresh perspective on things. Taking a small break can help prevent from getting anxious and overwhelmed throughout the day.

Learn from your past experiences

In every anxiety-related situation you experience, begin to learn what works, what does not work, and what you need to improve on in managing your fears and anxieties. For instance, you have a lot of anxiety and you decide to take a walk to help you feel better. The next time you feel anxious, you can remind yourself that you got through it the last time by taking a walk. This will give you the confidence to manage your anxiety the next time around.

Take advantage of the help that is available

If possible, talk to a mental health professional who can help you manage your fears, anxieties, and depression. Many law associations offer support groups and lawyer mental health assistant programs that can offer immediate assistance. By talking to a professional, a person will be helping themselves in the long run because they will become better able to deal with their problems in the future.

BIOGRAPHY

Stan is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear". For more information, please visit Stan's website at [http://
www.managingfear.com](http://www.managingfear.com)



Tips for Technology

Online Reviews (And Why They Matter)

A 2025 study by Bright Local found that 69% of customers were asked to leave an online review. That means 31% were never asked, which is a costly mistake. If your clients are among that 31%, you could be leaving money on the table.

So what exactly are online reviews?

Online reviews are public feedback that customers or clients leave about a business on platforms like Google, Yelp, or Facebook. They include a star rating and written comments, helping others make decisions and influencing how businesses appear in search results.

Why do they matter?

Online reviews build trust and credibility. Most people read them before choosing a business. They also influence local search rankings, helping businesses appear higher on Google. Positive reviews can directly drive more calls, clicks, and clients.

Having no reviews, or just a handful, can quietly cost you business you don't even know you're missing.

A few quick stats:

- **74%** of consumers use two or more websites to check reviews before choosing a local business (BrightLocal, 2025).
- **81%** check Google reviews before visiting a business (Textedly, 2025).
- **92%** read reviews before their first visit (Capital One Shopping, 2025).

If you don't have reviews, some potential clients have probably already decided not to call you. In some cases, they may not even find you in search results.

How to get more reviews

The simplest way is to ask. Most people are happy to leave a positive review if they had a good experience, especially if you make it easy for them.

There are many paid tools that can help automate this. At Search Site Marketing, for example, we use BirdEye to help our clients request and respond to reviews efficiently.

You can also do it for free through your Google Business Profile by clicking “**Ask for Reviews.**” This generates a shareable link you can text or email to clients right after you’ve completed your service.

One More Thing: Responding to Reviews

Asking for reviews is only half the equation. How you respond matters just as much.

Nearly **90%** of consumers are more likely to use a business that responds to reviews, and businesses that reply to at least 25% of them earn **up to 35% more profit** than those that don’t. Responding shows you value feedback and are engaged with your clients.

Thank customers who leave positive reviews. It reinforces their good experience and encourages others to share their own. When a negative review appears, respond calmly and professionally. A thoughtful reply can actually build trust by showing that you care about resolving issues and improving. Even if you can’t fix a situation, your professionalism speaks volumes to anyone reading later.

In short, people notice not just what’s said about your business but how you handle it.

Sean Gough

Rockland County-based Marketing Strategist for Attorneys



**2025 CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS|
ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
VIRTUAL CLE'S ARE NOW FREE FOR RCBA MEMBERS!**

Program Date	Time	Program Title	Speakers	Contact
Tuesday, November 18, 2025	In Person Location TBD 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Demystifying Mediation/Surrogates</i>	Robert Pierson (Moderator) Andrew Berman Anthony DiCaprio Caryn Keppler Wendy Leason Denise Colon	V. Jarek Prinz
Wednesday, November 19, 2025	In-Person 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm STC	<i>Assessing Actual Innocence</i>	Jeffrey Deskovic, Esq.	Laurie Dorsainvil
Tuesday, December 2, 2025	Virtual 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Charitable Giving</i>	Amanda Henderson	Amanda Henderson/ Barbara Cane
Thursday, December 4, 2025	Virtual 12:30 pm-1:30 pm	<i>Lawyer Assistance Program</i>	Jacqueline A. Cara Richard M. Wallace	Stacey Whitely (Veronica)
Thursday, December 11, 2025	In Person/Virtual 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Religious Differences in Mediation</i>	Isaac Gruenebaum (Mediator) Robert Pierson	Robert Pierson
Tuesday, December 16, 2025	In Person 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Defending Juvenile and Adolescent Offenders in the Youth Part and Family Court</i>	Kristine Ciganek	
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	In Person Sheriff Training Facility 5:30 pm Networking 6:00 pm-8:00 pm Program	<i>Empowering Your Practice: Leveraging Technology, Privacy, and Cybersecurity for Success</i>	Judith Bachman Kelly Jines Hass Khan	Judith Bachman/ Shari Berk
Wednesday, January 28, 2026	Virtual 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Landlord Tenant</i>	TBD	Ricki Burger
Wednesday February 12, 2025	Virtual 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Collateral Consequences: How Criminal and Family Court Outcomes Impact Immigration Status</i>	Crismelly Morales/ Ivon Anaya	
Thursday, February 26, 2025	Virtual 12:30 pm-2:00 pm	<i>Digital Assets</i>	Hon. Aimee Pollak	Aimee Pollak

RCBA Cares

The following resources are provided to you courtesy of the Lawyer to Lawyer Committee.*

Lawyer Assistance Programs

New York State Bar Association: 1-800-255-0569; lap@nysba.org

New York City Bar Association: 212-302-5787; <https://nysba.org/attorney-well-being/>

Suicide Prevention

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 988

Crisis Text Line: Need help? Text START to 741-741

Chemical Dependency and Self-Help Sites

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA): 212-870-3400; www.aa.org

International Lawyers in A.A. (ILAA): www.ilaa.org

Narcotics Anonymous (NA): 818-773-9999; www.na.org

Nicotine Anonymous (NA): 1-877-TRY-NICA; nicotine-anonymous.org

Mental Health

Depressed Anonymous: depressedanon.com

National Mental Health Association (NMHA) - 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to reach a 24-hour crisis center;
Text MHA to 741741 at the Crisis Text Line

Source: Andrew Denney, Bureau Chief of NYLJ and the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

****For more information about the Lawyer to Lawyer Committee,***

please email: office@rocklandbar.org



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1893 - 2025

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Jeanmarie@rocklandbar.org



www.rocklandbar.org





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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 Jeanmarie @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: Jeanmarie DiGiacomo

Jeanmarie@rocklandbar.org

845-634-2149

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: residential and commercial

Legal Malpractice

Zoning Law

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

NEWSBRIEF ADVERTISING RATES

NEWSBRIEF ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

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 Jeanmarie @ 845-634-2149 or send email to Jeanmarie@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.

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 Jeanmarie@rocklandbar.org by the 15th of the month so that the Executive Board may review it.

Thank you!



Monthly
Newsletter



YOUR AD HERE!**ATTORNEY**

Neimark Coffinas & Lapp LLP (New City) seeking attorney with 3 to 5 years' experience in personal injury litigation. Salary commensurate with experience. Generous benefits package.

E-mail resume to: ggc@ncl.law

LOOKING TO RETIRE OR SELL YOUR PRACTICE?

If you are a solo or small firm attorney considering retirement or selling your practice, contact Judith Bachman, 845-639-3210 or judith@thebachmanlawfirm.com. As a professional courtesy and seeking colleague to colleague conversations, she will help you evaluate options and talk about practice acquisition.

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

Full Time or Part Time Attorney

The Bachman Law Firm is seeking a Full Time or Part Time Associate Attorney. The ideal candidate has specific experience (5+ years) with corporate and contracts matters and/or commercial litigation. Typical projects include corporate asset purchases, commercial contracts for the sale of goods or services, corporate formation documents, commercial real estate sales, and business lawsuits. Full Time Salary \$90,000-\$150,000 (depending on experience and qualifications) (to be pro-rated for part time schedule). Benefits included are retirement account, group health insurance (premium contribution), PTO, and Professional Development assistance.

To apply, please submit a detailed resume to Kristine@thebachmanlawfirm.com and answer this question. What is your favorite food and why?

PARALEGALS AVAILABLE

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 Maria Repic-Placement Coordinator at (845) 574-4418 or email at maria.repic@sunyrockland.edu

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-nv.com

ADA Positions Available

The Ulster County District Attorney's office is seeking two (2) experienced full-time ADAs and one (1) entry level, i.e., newly admitted ADA. They are seeking ethical lawyers who have a stake in this community and possess the fortitude for criminal trials and related proceedings. Anyone hired will be paid a salary with enviable benefits and gratitude of the community.

If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity, contact Jodi Longto, Confidential stant, at jodl@co.ulster.ny.us for additional information.

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

Your Ad Here!

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
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