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Manuela Gomez,
Editor

ROCKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

NEWSBRIEF

www.rocklandbar.org

January 2022

President's Post

Happy New Year and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2022! Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

As we are all aware, the Omicron Variant has spread quickly and is affecting our lives and practices. Standing in line to obtain a test for the virus, checking availability for vaccinations and booster shots has become all too familiar to many of us. The Association had envisioned a year of more in-person events and the Corona virus has not been cooperating.

Nevertheless, I want to let you all know that the Bar Association continues to be here to serve you. Our offices remain open to take your calls and address your issues and concerns. To further serve our members we will soon be rolling out a new online member directory (more on that in next month's *Newsbrief*). We will continue to provide quality Continuing Legal Education programs (see Page 20 to help you plan your year of CLEs) and Practitioners' Chats via Zoom. Our Memorial Recognition Ceremony is scheduled for April 8, 2022. Our Lawyer Referral Service remains very active and is available to those who wish to participate.

We thank our Members for their support and loyalty and remain hopeful that this variant passes quickly and we will see you all in person, at some Bar Association events this spring.

All the best,
Ira S. Schoeps
President

IMPORTANT NOTICE

SOLICITATION OF NOMINEES FOR UPCOMING VACANCIES ON THE RCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pursuant to Article V, Section 9(c) of the by By-Laws of the Rockland County Bar Association, applications are now being solicited for upcoming vacancies on the Association's Board of Directors.

There will be 6 open vacancies on the Board of Directors for terms beginning on July 1, 2022.

Anyone wishing to be a candidate for election to the Board must express their interest, in writing, no later than February 1, 2022. The writing should include the reasons why the member believes he or she is qualified to serve on the Board.

The Nominating Committee will conduct in-person interviews of all candidates. Failure of the candidate to appear at their scheduled interview will disqualify that candidate from consideration.

Upon conclusion of all interviews, the Nominating Committee shall meet and select nominees. Selection of nominees will be completed no later than March 10, 2022. Notice of selected nominees will be sent to the entire membership no later than March 20, 2022.

Please submit your applications in writing to:

Nancy Low-Hogan, Ph. D.

Executive Director

Rockland County Bar Association,

337 North Main Street, Suite 1

New City, N.Y. 10956

U.S. Postal submissions and E-mails to nancy@rocklandbar.org will be accepted in addition to personal deliveries.

Deadline for responses is February 1, 2022.

Any member not selected by the Nominating Committee, whether or not he or she solicited nomination before the Nominating Committee, wishing to have his or her name placed in nomination for election to the Board, shall submit a petition to place his/her name before the membership. The petition must be signed by no fewer than 20 members in good standing with the Association, and must be submitted in person at the Bar Association offices no later than April 5, 2022.

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE (LRS)

TIME TO RENEW OR JOIN FOR 2022

The Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) program year runs from

January 1 – December 31.

It is time to renew or join!

TO RENEW:

Go to homepage on our website, www.rocklandbar.org, and go to “Member Resources.”

- 1. Click on “Join the Lawyer Referral Service”**
- 2. Log-in to your account**
- 3. Click on “2022 Renewal Form”**

TO JOIN:

Go to homepage on our website, www.rocklandbar.org, and go to “Member Resources.”

- 4. Click on “Join the Lawyer Referral Service”**
- 5. Log-in to your account**
- 6. To Sign-up for the first time: click on “Plan Description and Full Application”**



PLAN OF THE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

The Rockland County Bar Association under the guidance of the American Bar Association, has established a Lawyer Referral Service (“The Referral Service”) on a County-wide basis. The office is located at the Rockland County Bar Association, 337 North Main Street, Suite 1, New City, New York 10956.

The willing participation and continued support of lawyers practicing in Rockland County is crucial to the smooth operation of the Referral Service.

The purposes of the Referral Service are:

- To be a public service, available to assist the general public by providing an alternative source for any person who can afford to pay a reasonable fee for legal services and who does not have a lawyer by providing a referral to a lawyer who practices in Rockland County.
- To provide a vehicle for persons who need a legal representative but whose earnings or assets are too high for the standards set by Rockland County Legal Aid Society or Pro Bono New York; and
- To establish a better rapport between the public and the legal profession.

The Referral Service Plan is not designed to take clients away from attorneys. In fact, a cardinal principle will be to establish whether a prospective client has a present attorney. The Referral Service will not refer the client to a panel attorney of the Referral Service if we learn that a prospective client has seen other attorneys in an effort to bargain on fees. Additionally, a prospective client shall not be referred to a panel attorney if the prospective client has previously engaged the services of a lawyer on the same matter unless the original-lawyer-client relationship has been properly terminated in writing.

1. Membership on the Referral Service Panel is by individual attorney and not by law firm.
2. A panel attorney must abide by all of the rules of the Referral Service and will in no way hold, or claim to hold, the Rockland County Bar Association, the Referral Service or any of the members, officers or employees liable in connection with any referral made.

***Won't you consider joining this important service? Find out more. Go to: www.rocklandbar.org.
Go to “Member Resources.”***

TIME TO GROW

YOUR PRACTICE!

**JOIN THE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
(LRS)**

GET SEVERAL REFERRALS PER MONTH.

AN AFFORDABLE RESOURCE.

GO TO:

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To: Attorneys, professional staff & interested parties

ATTEND FREE SUPREME COURT

E-FILING TRAINING*

10:30am - 12:30pm

January 12, 2022

February 16, 2022

March 16, 2022

April 13, 2022

Where: Virtual - on-line via Microsoft Teams

Attend the free e-filing training in which the NYSCEF Resource Center staff will guide you through your first Supreme Court filing, review court rules, and provide helpful tips to avoid pitfalls and achieve success. Attorneys can receive 2 (free) CLE credits.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

To register go to www.nycourts.gov/efile and click on the register for training link.

*NYSCEF training classes provide 2.0 FREE Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit hours. (1.0 credit in Professional Practice and 1.0 credit in Law Practice Management).

Odyssey, our Members' Literary Corner.

In this space, Members can share their personal literary works, including poems and short stories. We hope to publish one Member's submission each month in Newsbrief.

Odyssey is a space for our Members to showcase their literary talents - because there is more to an attorney's life than work, and so much more to share with each other.

By Robert L. Fellows, Esq.

Germination Ode

Plant the seed to fulfill its destiny
With love, nurturing potential for authentic autonomy
A maiden planting beginning journeys anew
A serene beauty with flowering as New Year evolves

We slowly, safely and with prudence emerge
From the masking, distant, aloof present
With metamorphosis of intention to do better
To hope, to unlock our collective shackles and absorb

Potentiality of a future yet to be
With bonds that unite, meaning to ignite
Insight despite burdens walling off
We shall collectively transport the self towards the Light

To a new height, with clearer insight
Travel from an emotional desert to
The oasis of shared aspirations
Pulsations of our commonality not banality

Through love with effort cleave to a new beginning
A passion, friend, an awakening as
We know, sensing potential to be realized
From a slate yet to be written but

Composed it will be, through
shared passions, pursuits and purpose
harmony, balance, rejuvenation, meaning
I say Rebirth into a New Year

[January 2022]

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

Your clients' home is in foreclosure for nonpayment of their home loan. At least 90 days before commencement of the foreclosure action, your clients received the pre-foreclosure notice prescribed by RPAPL 1304 advising them that they may be at risk of foreclosure and of losing their home. The notice contained all the required statutory language, which was followed by additional language in Spanish and English advising them that if they were in bankruptcy or in the military, certain provisions in the notice might not apply. You pleaded the affirmative defense of failure to satisfy a statutory condition precedent, in that more than the required notice came in the single envelope, contrary to RPAPL 1304(2), which mandates that the notice to be mailed in a "separate envelope from any other mailing or notice." The bank argued that the additional language in the notice was relevant to and clarified the statutory language, because if your clients were either in bankruptcy or in the military, some of the information contained in the mandatory language would not apply, thus furthering the intent of the legislation.

Will you win summary judgment on your affirmative defense?

The answer is "yes."

In *Bank of Am., N.A. v. Kessler*, NYLJ 1639662808NY201800866 (2d Dep't December 15, 2021) (Docket No. 2018-00886), the bank timely sent the required RPAPL 1304 notice. However, the mandatory language of the notice was followed by language concerning the rights of a debtor in bankruptcy or in the military service, which could make some of the provisions of the notice inapplicable.

The Court chose to adopt a "bright-line rule" allowing nothing but the notice with the mandated language to be in the envelope. The Court cited and rejected cases that A) analyze whether the additional material prejudices or assists the borrower; or B) find the statutory language to be non-exclusive concerning other information that can be contained in the envelope; or C) engage in a fact-intensive search for whether the additional material is on a separate page versus being contained on the same page as the statutory language; or D) find that a de minimis deviation is compliance; or E) approves clarifying language such as language concerning the rights of the homeowner in bankruptcy or in the military.

The Court found the language of the statute to be clear, and explained that the “bright-line rule” promotes stability and predictability in mortgage foreclosures, as the Court of Appeals urged in *Freedom Mtge. Corp. v. Engel*, 37 N.Y.3d 1 (2021). There, the Court of Appeals set the bright-line rule holding that a lender’s voluntary discontinuance of a prior foreclosure action constitutes a revocation of its election to accelerate the debt, absent a contemporaneous statement by the noteholder to the contrary. The Court of Appeals expressly recognized the legislature’s imposition of exacting standards for bringing a foreclosure claim, including prescribing the precise method of providing pre-suit notice to the borrower.

The dissent by Justice Miller in this case rejected the bright-line rule, explaining, “In the absence of an explicit prohibition against such additional language in a valid RPAPL 1304(1) notice, the statute should not be extended beyond its plain language in a manner that renders every inconsequential addition fatal.”

The lesson? It may take a while for the new “bright-line rule” to be known and complied with. As evidenced by the many cases cited and rejected by the Appellate Division, there is often more than the mandated language included in the mailing of the RPAPL 1304(1) notice. If you represent a residential homeowner in foreclosure, scour the RPAPL 1304 notice for literally any language or other enclosure not included in the prescribed language, and plead non-compliance when you find any. If you represent the noteholder, make sure that anything other than the statutory language is mailed in an envelope separate from the mandated notice.

*By Joseph Churgin, Esq. and Susan Cooper, Esq. of
SAVAD CHURGIN, LLP, Attorneys at Law

Technology Tips for Attorneys

submitted by

Michael Loewenberg*

Most of us use our web browsers to save passwords when we visit websites. It certainly makes it easy and convenient when the username and password fields are prefilled with our credentials that are saved in the browser database. Recent security reports have indicated that saving passwords in our browsers is more risky than originally thought and experts are suggesting that we no longer save our passwords in our browsers.

The four major web browsers offer to save passwords for us to make logging into our secure websites convenient. Chrome, Firefox, Edge and Safari all let us save credentials that are pre-filled when we visit the appropriate site and, for many of us, using the saved passwords is the only way we can log in because we don't have them saved elsewhere.

In early January, the security firm AhnLab in South Korea reported that they've seen an increased use of specific malware that targets browsers with the express intent of stealing saved passwords for websites. Remote workers are especially vulnerable because their home computers are often not as security-hardened as their office devices. From the security firm: "Although the account credentials storing feature of browsers is very convenient, as there is a risk of leakage of account credentials upon malware infection, users are recommended to refrain from using it and only use programs from clear sources."

So what to do?

Not all website credentials are critical – it's more important to secure your banking username and password than, for example, your access to your newspaper. You can manage the passwords saved in your browsers by going to the settings function in each one. In Chrome, for example, click the three dots at the upper right and select Settings > Autofill > Passwords. You can export them all (if you want to clear them from the browser and import them into a standalone password management program) or you can selectively remove the ones you don't want save in your browser. You likely have many saved passwords in your browsers so this is not a small task. But it's one worth spending some time on to mitigate your risk.

This is also a good time to remind you that you should not use the same password for all of your secure access websites. Mainstream web browsers will highlight passwords that are duplicates or have appeared on dark web data breaches and it's a good idea for you to pay particular attention to those.

Stay safe!

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

January 2022

THE PRACTICE PAGE

ENFORCING FOREIGN JUDGMENTS

Hon. Mark C. Dillon *

Money judgments rendered by foreign countries may become relevant to collection efforts in New York. To be enforceable, there must be a “domestication” of the foreign judgment under the procedures defined by the Uniform Foreign Country Money-Judgments Recognition Act. The Uniform Act is embodied in CPLR Article 53.

Some foreign money judgments will be cognizable and enforceable here under the Uniform Act, and others not. There is essentially a two-tiered analysis that needs to be examined for enforcing foreign country judgments. One tier is whether the judgment is subject to mandatory non-recognition, and the other is whether there is a discretionary reason for its non-recognition. Both hurdles must be satisfied for the foreign money judgment to be enforceable in New York.

The “mandatory” grounds for non-recognition are defined in CPLR 5304, and there are two that are separate and unrelated from one another. A foreign judgment is not conclusive in New York if it is rendered by a judicial system which does not provide tribunals or procedures compatible with the requirements of due process (CPLR 5304[a][1]). Throughout the world, there are countries which New York has recognized as meeting our expectations of due process (e.g. *Deslauriers & Co., Attorneys S.A. v Joel*, 64 Misc.3d 1234[A] [Quebec judgment enforceable]) and other countries which do not meet those expectations (e.g. *Bank Melli Iran Pahlavi*, 58 F.3d 1406, cert. den., 516 U.S. 989 [Iranian judgment against former Shah of Iran]). It makes sense that foreign judgments comport with due process to be “worthy” of enforcement here. The other instance a foreign judgment is not enforceable here is when personal jurisdiction was never obtained over the defendant in the foreign country (CPLR 5304[a][2]; see generally *CIBC Mellon Trust Co. v Mora Hotel Corp., N.V.*, 296 AD2d 81). That rule operates across the board, where all judgments, including those rendered from New York, are void if personal jurisdiction was never obtained over the defendant in the first instance. CPLR 5305 sets forth bases on which the New York courts are to determine whether the foreign court had obtained personal jurisdiction over the defendant, and practitioners are warned that the statute’s considerations are different from the standard service of process rules seen in CPLR 302 and 308.

Assuming that there is no mandatory reason for refusing to enforce a foreign country judgment, our courts retain jurisdiction to not recognize them for other reasons which are discretionary. Those grab bag reasons include 1) the foreign country’s lack of subject matter jurisdiction, 2) the defendant in the foreign court lacked timely notice of the foreign proceedings sufficient for defending itself, 3) the foreign judgment was obtained by fraud, 4) the cause of action underlying the judgment is repugnant to New York public policy, 5) the judgment conflicts with another final judgment rendered elsewhere, 6) the foreign proceeding violated an agreement between the parties to resolve the matter in other ways, 7) the forum was “seriously inconvenient,” 8) and in the case of defamation, the foreign court’s law did not provide as much protection for free speech and free press as provided by the U.S. and New York constitutions (CPLR 5304[a][2]; see generally *Albania-BEG Ambient Sh.p.k. v Enel S.p.A.*, 160 AD3d 93).

As between the “mandatory” and “discretionary” grounds for rejecting foreign money judgments, the plaintiff seeking to enforce the foreign country’s judgment bears the initial prima facie burden of establishing that the mandatory grounds for non-recognition are not applicable (*Wimmer Can v Abele Tractor & Equip. Co.*, 299 AD2d 47, lv. den., 99 NY2d 507). Thus, the foreign country judgment is not cognizable in New York unless the proponent hurdles the mandatory concerns of CPLR 5304(a)(1). If that burden is met, the defendant opposing the domestication of the foreign judgment then bears the shifted burden of proving one of the discretionary grounds of CPLR 5304(a)(2) for the non-recognition of the foreign money judgment (*Byblos Bank Europe, S.A. v Sekerbank Turk Anonym Srketi*, 40 AD3d 497). Doing so is dependent upon the unique facts and circumstances of the foreign litigation, which necessarily vary from case to case. If the opposing party fails to establish any discretionary ground for the non-recognition, the foreign money judgment is subject to enforcement in New York.

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

Call for Judges for the 2022 National Trial Competition, Region 2

The Trial Lawyers Section, Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University Advocacy Program, and the American College of Trial Lawyers invite you to judge the 2022 National Trial Competition, Region 2!

The National Trial Competition 2022 Regional Tournament will occur on **Thursday, February 4th, 2022, through Sunday, February 6th, 2022**, via the Zoom video conference platform. Twenty-three teams representing thirteen law schools will be participating. Judging requires an internet connection, a computer with a working microphone and webcam, and a quiet space free of distractions. All trials will be conducted by Zoom. There will be a brief orientation the week of the competition to explain the competition rules, scoring, and key Zoom features. We will supply a date and Zoom link for the orientation closer to the competition. For each round you judge, you will receive CLE credit.

Students will conduct direct and cross-examinations of witnesses, handle exhibits, deliver opening and closing statements, and raise and defend evidentiary objections. To prepare you for your role as a Competition judge, you will receive (via e-mail) a copy of the case file several weeks before the competition. The top two regional teams will represent our region in The National Finals.

The competition schedule is as follows:

Preliminary Round 1: Friday, February 4th, from approximately 11:00 am until 2:00 pm EST

Preliminary Round 2: Friday, February 4th, from approximately 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm EST

Preliminary Round 3: Saturday, February 5th, from approximately 9:00 am until 12:00 pm EST

Quarter-final Round: Saturday, February 5th, from approximately 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm EST

Semi-final Round: Sunday, February 6th, from approximately 9:00 am until 12:00 pm EST

Final Round: Sunday, February 6th, from approximately 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm EST

These rounds present a total of six opportunities for you to participate. We would be happy to have you judge one or multiple rounds. The judges for the quarter-final, semi-final, and final rounds must be different from the preliminary rounds, so please keep this in mind. Judges must arrive at least 45 minutes before the competition start time.

We are asking experienced practitioners, judges, and academics that are available and willing to judge the competition to please sign up below.

Please submit this form online BY JANUARY 15, 2022.

[SIGN UP TO JUDGE HERE!!!](#)

For additional information or questions, please contact Loretta Musial at lmusial@law.pace.edu.

Sincerely,

Professor Louis V. Fasulo, Esq. 78 North Broadway Director White Plains, NY 10603

Advocacy Programs 914-422-4403/4180 Fax

E-mail: lfasulo@law.pace.edu

About the National Trial Competition

For over 40 years, the Trial Lawyers Section of the New York State Bar Association has had the privilege of sponsoring the New York Regional Round of the National Trial Competition, the country's oldest and most prestigious mock trial competition for law students. The National Trial Competition (NTC) was established in 1975 to encourage and strengthen students' advocacy skills through quality competition and valuable interaction with members of the bench and bar. The program is co-sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) and is designed to expose law students to the nature of trial practice and to serve as a supplement to their education.



UCS-23

EMPLOYMENT

OPPORTUNITY

ANNOUNCEMENT
STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

PLEASE POST
ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 52123

=====

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: \$74,478 + \$4,300 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: \$87,520 + \$4,300 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.

LOCATION: Mental Hygiene Legal Service
Rockland County

CLASSIFICATION: Non-Competitive/Confidential

ASSIGNMENT: MHLS attorneys provide legal representation to individuals with mental or developmental disabilities. They regularly appear in the New York courts in difficult cases concerning involuntary hospitalization, psychiatric treatment and guardianship. This position involves frequent fieldwork, including meeting with clients at psychiatric hospitals, other facilities or private residences. MHLS attorneys advocate informally on behalf of clients and represent them at administrative hearings. Finally, this position may involve representing clients in complex cases brought under New York's sex offender civil management laws. 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) and a resume by email to 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 EEO DATA COLLECTION FORM.

New hires must be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus by the date of hire, unless granted a reasonable accommodation due to disability or religion.

POSTING DATE: December 20, 2021 **APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY:**
January 17, 2022

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.

Criminal Justice Student Seeks Internship

A Senior from Suffern High School who attends the Criminal Justice program at BOCES is very interested in becoming an attorney. This student is one of the top students in the program and an Honor Society Member. The internship runs two days/week from now through April 12. Currently, the BOCES program has interns at the District Attorney's Office and County Attorney's Office, among others. Students are fully vaccinated and adhere to Covid protocols.

If you are interested, please contact Marta Cortelli, Criminal Justice & Security Instructor, Rockland BOCES, 845-627-4770, EXT. 4380.

Email: mcortelli@rboces.org

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE RCBA REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Please be advised, that after many months of work and coordination between the RCBA, the Real Estate Committee, its Co-Chairs and Members; we are pleased to announce that the RCBA Real Estate Committee has created, voted-on and Approved an updated Real Estate Contract for the first time in Decades!

Co-Chairs Jeff Yanowitz and David Ascher took notes and comments from the Real Estate Committee members over many months to provide this updated Contract to the entire RCBA! We look forward to utilizing this Contract throughout Rockland County and providing a more modern and stream-lined approach to Real Estate Transactions for us all.

Please find two updated contracts (single family home and condominium) on our RCBA website at www.rocklandbar.org. Scroll down to the bottom of the homepage and find links under "Helpful Links."

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Introducing...

ODYSSEY

OUR NEW MEMBERS' LITERARY CORNER

We hope to publish a literary piece, written by one of our Members, each month in *Newsbrief*. Please email your submission in a Word document to: office@rocklandbar.org

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
(see page 7 for this month's submission)

We've all had a tough year.

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COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS

RCBA Cares

Go to: www.rocklandbar.org

“Member Resources”

for:

Professional Practice tips

Wellness articles

Community updates

Here's to a happy and healthy 2021!

*discussions
for RCBA members*



VISIT US ONLINE

RCBA STORE



OPEN FOR BUSINESS

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

Thank you!



ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ROCKLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The County of Rockland is seeking a candidate to perform professional and legal work of a complex nature involving the responsibility for representing the people in criminal court cases and in the performance of other legal work. General supervision is received from the District Attorney and/or a higher-level Assistant District Attorney. The work requires the incumbent to be on call at night and on weekends. Does related work as required.

Candidates must possess good knowledge of criminal law and court procedures; ability to perform legal research and prepares written documents (e.g. briefs); ability to express arguments of the law by written and spoken word; ability to deal effectively with people.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a license to practice law in the State of New York or formal approval under the Rules of the Court of Appeals, Part 520.9 (e) (3), to practice law in New York State. Approval under the latter is for an 18-month period only.

NOTE: Must provide a current certificate of good standing.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: License to practice law in the State of New York must be maintained throughout the course of employment in this title.

Please email resume to: bulusanc@rocklandda.org

Happy New Year! 2022!



CLE CORNER

PLAN YOUR YEAR OF CLEs NOW!

2022 CLE TITLE	DATE & TIME
CLE - Online Mortgage Foreclosure	Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6-9 p.m.
CLE- Online Elder Law	Tuesday, April 5, 2022 12-1 p.m.
CLE - Online CPLR	Friday, May 6, 2022 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NEW CLE REQUIREMENT

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

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

CLE REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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.

COMMITTEE CORNER

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

Need a Place to Meet in New City?

RCBA Conference Rooms available for rent.

MEMBER PRICES:

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

NON-MEMBER PRICES:

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

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

NEWSBRIEF ADVERTISING RATES

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Announcing New Discounts:

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PLEASE NOTE:

NEWSBRIEF IS NOT PUBLISHED IN JULY

CALL SABRINA @ 845-634-2149

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.

CLASSIFIED ADS



SHADOWING OPPORTUNITY

College Student Looking for an Unpaid Shadowing Opportunity
My name is Jenny Dorlus and I am a 21-year-old political science major at Long Island University. I am currently in search of shadowing opportunities at a local law firm — preferably a short term, unpaid opportunity where I'd be able to learn firsthand what it takes to work at a law firm/in the field. I am willing to assist with projects and take on basic day to day operations. However, I would appreciate anything that you are capable of offering! If you would like to contact me, my return email is jennydorlus@gmail.com and my mobile number is (845)-300-5635.

OFFICE SPACE

New City -3 contiguous office suites, totaling approximately 1,200 sq. ft.; Can combine/divide to suit individual user(s) needs- South Main Street, walk to courthouse, restaurants, gov't buildings, ample parking. Call Arthur 845-359-3560

OFFICE SPACE

Office within law office suite for rent at 10 Esquire Road, New City. Includes use of free Wifi, conference room, restroom and waiting area. One level building and ample parking.
Can also be used for to receive your MAIL.
No security or fee required.
Call Dave at 638-2889

WE HAVE MOVED

Schloss & Schloss PLLC
55 Old Turnpike Road, Suite 211
Nanuet, NY 10954

OFFICE FURNITURE FOR SALE

Priced to sell. Vertical and lateral file cabinets, storage units, desks, chairs, conference tables, book cases, credenza, tables, dividers. Please call Mary at 845-634-7010 ext. 1268 for information. Items are located in New City.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

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

ATTORNEY NEEDED

Rockland, Westchester, and Orange County Plaintiff Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Firm seeks attorney 3+ years' experience preferred. Spanish speaking a plus. Resident of Rockland County, Westchester County, Orange County or local New Jersey area preferred. Salary commensurate with experience. Good benefits. Please write to: Mellman@beldockandsaunderslaw.com

SEARCHING FOR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

Search for Last Will & Testament of Carmela Lamparelli Medvinsky of Congers, NY. Please contact Sean Hobbs 845.634.2752 sean@kfhobbslaw.com

PART-TIME PARALEGAL

Looking for a part time paralegal or legal secretary for estate work for local practitioners with computer skills for a few hours a week - flexible hour. Please contact Tom O'Connell at 845-729-4460 or email him at 8457294460@gmail.com

ATTORNEY NEEDED

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

LEGAL ASSISTANT PART-TIME

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

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 ahurwitz@sunyrockland.edu

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