

# Widener Law

WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW Volume 19 Number 2 FALL 2012



STUDENTS | SKILLS | SERVICE

**FEATURING:**

Serving Those Who Served

Teaching Law the *Practical* Way

A Small Service—  
When No One is Looking

## Widener University School of Law Magazine

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

Mary Allen, Ben Barros, Ashley Barton, Peter Castagna, Patricia Fox, Laurie Grant, Todd Lineburger, Mary Marzolla, Rosemary Pall, Gilberte Pierre, Nancy Ravert Ward

### PHOTOGRAPHY:

Mary Allen, Linda Ammons, Cindy Barger, Ashley Barton, Peter Castagna, Robert Coldwell, Nathan Garrison, Laurie Grant, Todd Lineburger, Rosemary Pall, Keith Sealing, Nancy Ravert Ward

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“For decades, we have taken a multifaceted approach to educating tomorrow’s legal professionals...”



## A message from the dean

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Last spring, I was fortunate enough to hear Tom Brokaw speak at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia as part of the university’s *Philadelphia Speaker Series*. Mr. Brokaw called for a new, nationwide commitment to service and a rededication of our country’s efforts on behalf of veterans. With so many military personnel striving to reenter our nation’s workforce and educational system, his call is timely. It also corresponds to the emphasis in legal education on inculcating an ethos of service in our students.

At Widener Law we are answering Mr. Brokaw’s call. For decades, we have taken a multifaceted approach to educating tomorrow’s legal professionals, employing a range of curricular innovations that give our students the opportunity to serve others and to master the broad range of skills essential to success in a fast-changing legal landscape. The cliché “ahead of the curve” is a tired one, but in this case it is true; we have led the way in this area for years. Many of our service and skills-development programs, like our Veterans Law Clinic, serve as models for such programming nationwide.

In this issue of *Widener Law* magazine, we detail the Veterans Law Clinic’s leadership through the story of one veteran whose struggle lasted more than a decade. We consider the role of skills training and service in legal education, and we share the story—one of many—of a student whose inclination to serve comes not from a mandate or incentive, but from a natural desire to help the men and women in uniform who serve our country. We also profile an alumnus whose legal training and military service have taken his career in unexpected directions, and we discuss the contributions of Professor Alan Garfield who, through his award-winning column, promotes better understanding of the constitution our armed forces are sworn to protect.

As we enter the final years of the law school’s comprehensive campaign, *Taking the Lead*, it is instructive to remember who makes this possible—you, our alumni and friends. In this issue’s campaign update, we highlight four donors whose leadership has helped transform your law school. I am deeply grateful to them and to you for all you do for Widener Law.

LINDA L. AMMONS, JD  
ASSOCIATE PROVOST AND DEAN

“Widener Law graduates continue to achieve professional success and the recognition of their peers, who elect more of them each year to chart our profession’s course.”



A message from  
the alumni board president

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

It is an exhilarating time of year. With fall and its cooler weather here, I am energized and looking forward to this year’s slate of Widener Law events: regional alumni gatherings like the Philadelphia alumni reception where in 2012 we honored Philadelphia Bar Association President John Savoth ’85, special programs like last spring’s Widener Law Women’s Leadership Dinner, CLE programs, speakers, and much more.

Last year, at our events and in publications like this magazine, we celebrated a number of our alumni who have risen to leadership positions in the legal world, heading bar associations and other professional organizations throughout the mid-Atlantic and the nation. This year I anticipate congratulating just as many; our fellow Widener Law graduates continue to achieve professional success and the recognition of their peers, who elect more of them each year to chart our profession’s course.

I am proud to say that we have shown leadership at our law school as well. Thanks to the thousands of us who have made financial contributions to the law school’s campaign, *Taking the Lead*, we are well on our way to fulfilling its \$12 million goal on time.

We alumni will reap many benefits of the campaign, which is helping the law school continue to build its reputation for producing skillful, effective, and dedicated advocates. You and I already know how worthwhile our Widener Law degrees are. As we continue to build this great institution, we can let the rest of the legal community know it too.

Sincerely,

Renae B. Axelrod ’91

PRESIDENT, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Where has Widener Law taken you?

We’d like to feature your story.  
Write us at [law\\_alumni@mail.widener.edu](mailto:law_alumni@mail.widener.edu).



Veterans Law Clinic Volunteer  
Attorney Paul Lukoff (in back)  
with Beverly and Lloyd Waters

# Serving those

Widener's Veterans Law Clinic—one of the nation's first—has for more than a decade represented low-income, disabled veterans in the toughest of Veterans Administration appeals. Under the leadership of Director and former U.S. Air Force JAG officer Justin G. Holbrook, the clinic undertakes a caseload that ranges broadly, encompassing administrative law, medical malpractice, and everything in between, in a practice area where few have expertise, and against odds that are lengthened by time and bureaucratic inertia. Far from being overwhelmed, Holbrook and his staff are working actively to spread the word about veterans' legal needs and to enable volunteer attorneys and other law schools to help meet them.

**J**ust below the base of your skull, your Atlas vertebra (C1) is working hard—like its namesake—to support the weight of your head and all it contains. Your C1 rests on your Axis vertebra (C2), which has an upward-reaching bony extension that interlocks with the Atlas and acts as a pivot. All are critical components in a system that allows your head—and the rest of you—a remarkable range of motion.

Lloyd Waters had a problem with his Atlas and Axis vertebrae. Namely, they had acquired a benign nerve sheath tumor called a Schwannoma. As they grow, Schwannoma tumors can interfere with nerve function and cause a variety of disabling symptoms. When one grows in your spine, the symptoms can alter you completely.

Waters served in the Navy during the 1950s. Honorably discharged in 1959, his next contact with the Veterans



Administration came in 1995, when he sought treatment for hearing loss at the VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Atlanta, Georgia. He had more than hearing loss.

He says, "They started checking me out for everything... They found this spot on my ear, on my spine. They didn't do anything about it." Soon he experienced difficulty moving.

Over the next seven years, his symptoms mounted: severe hearing loss and sinus pain, numbness and tingling in his extremities, degenerative changes in his spine, chronic ear pain. In 2002, an MRI detected the presumed cause: the Schwannoma tumor, which was compressing his spinal cord. He was referred to VAMC Augusta for surgery.

What followed would change the Waters' lives. Veterans Law Clinic Director Justin Holbrook says, "The VA often delivers excellent medical care. Unfortunately for Mr. Waters, this was not one of those times."

# who served



Veterans Law Clinic Director Justin Holbrook

“Legal education is at a point of transition between the historical emphasis on legal doctrine and current emphasis on legal practice. Veterans law offers students a terrific opportunity to gain practical legal skills while still in law school. They work with diverse clientele, doing substantive law in an administrative practice setting. They learn to manage a law practice—billing, routing, and filing—corresponding with clients and third parties, building a case file by identifying elements necessary to succeed. They gather evidence required to establish those elements. They have opportunities to practice oral advocacy skills by appearing as student interns before Board of Veterans Appeals. They hone their writing skills by drafting briefs. Finally, they learn an important understanding of professional identity, *pro bono* service, timely response, research, and lots more.”

At the hospital, recalls Waters’ wife Beverly, a VA doctor presented the family with a stark choice. “They really did not give us an option to get a second opinion. It was just, ‘we have to operate now’.... I said, ‘How many surgeries have you done of this?’ [The doctor] just kind of danced around the issue....”

On December 4, 2002, a second-year surgical resident opened Waters’ dura (the protective sheath surrounding the spinal cord), removed the tumor, and closed the wound. Waters was apprised of two risks: bleeding and infection.

Not long after waking, he experienced severe headaches and had difficulty walking. Beverly Waters says, “When he came out of surgery, that was when the headaches started—tremendous headaches. He would hold his head and scream...” To relieve his pain, the medical staff induced a coma.

A post-operative MRI revealed a large pseudomeningocele—an abnormal collection of cerebrospinal fluid—pressing on his fifth cervical vertebrae. The VA discharged him, but he continued experiencing severe headaches, memory loss, and other indications that all was not well. He was confined largely to a wheelchair, and a series of tests indicated impaired judgment.

He says, “I couldn’t remember like I use too. I could read a book—one book—forever and it wouldn’t be the same because every time I’d read something I would forget it. That’s when I noticed something was really, really wrong.”

Waters had been an active, capable man. He worked for 30 years as a commercial printer and only months before surgery had completely renovated the basement of their Gainesville, Georgia home. By early 2003, however, he was diagnosed as a quadriplegic. He could not walk, let alone work. Beverly Waters quit her job as a mortgage loan officer to provide round-the-clock care, which consumed their savings. In 2004, Beverly and Lloyd Waters moved to Newark, Delaware, to live with their son.

In 2005, they filed a claim with the Veterans Administration for compensation for damages related to the surgery. Although the VA conceded the surgery caused Waters’ quadriplegia, it refused to admit its doctors had made mistakes. In 2006, the claim was denied. Throughout, Beverly Waters remained her husband’s tireless advocate, and she continued searching for a way to right the wrong he had endured.

In 2007, she received a tip that would prove instrumental—to contact Widener’s Veterans Law Clinic (VLC). She called then-director Taishoff Professor Tom Reed. It took Reed a few questions to understand that the case would be difficult, that it would be one-of-a-kind, and that he could help.

“Let’s be honest,” he says. “We represent the most difficult veterans disability cases. None of our clients’ cases are typical of anything.”

Holbrook agrees. “The Waters case was complex procedurally and medically. The VA had made enormous errors, which were easy to see and difficult to prove. It was not an easy case.”

In 2007, the VLC launched the appeals process.



## Did you know?

This year, Widener Law has elected to fund up to five JD students on each campus through the Yellow Ribbon Program, a part of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This voluntary program, in which Widener has participated since its inception in 2009, invites universities to fund up to 50% of veterans’ education expenses that exceed the base GI Bill benefit. The Department of Veterans Affairs then matches the amount provided by the institution.



The VLC is one of only a handful of law school clinics around the country that provides free representation to disabled veterans. Since its founding in 1997 by Reed, a Marine Corps Veteran, the clinic has helped hundreds of veterans recover more than \$2 million dollars in retroactive disability compensation payments. Reed, who retired as VLC director in 2010 and was granted *Emeritus* status by the university, says, "This was 1997...I knew enough to be helpful"<sup>1</sup>.

He found himself in a growth industry.

"Veterans as a group are diverse," he says. "There are 23 million from age 18 or 19 to 100 and from all wars from World War II forward. More than 3 million receive disability compensation...That number is rising as people are coming back from Afghanistan and Iraq with a greater number of disabilities than their predecessors, including PTSD [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder] and TBI [Traumatic Brain Injury].... Vietnam era veterans are aging. They're an older population with increasing medical needs. They're also filing claims."

"The clinic currently represents around 200 veterans," says Holbrook, "with more veterans calling the clinic each week. Unfortunately, we simply don't have the capacity to help everyone." According to Holbrook, more than 1.3 million service members have separated from the military since 2001, half of whom have filed claims with the VA. "The situation has reached a crisis," Holbrook explains. "The number of annual claims filed at the VA has nearly doubled since 2005, almost 1 million claims are currently pending, and the average waiting time for appeals is more than two years—sometimes much, much longer.

"Most veterans," he says, "who are denied benefits by the VA never appeal their VA decisions because the system is complex and frustratingly slow. But if they do appeal, they have a real chance of success.... They simply need an attorney who knows the system."

The VA has never been nimble. Major Bill Collins '94<sup>2</sup>, Counsel Program Head at the Marine Corps' Integrated Disability Evaluation System, notes that prior to 2008, there were two disability evaluation systems—one run by the Department of Defense and one run by the VA—that often conflicted, rendering confusion. Even now, "[The integrated system] is not without its own unique problems and challenges.... Poorly or hastily conducted medical exams can result in a service member not having all his or her service-connected medical conditions properly documented"<sup>3</sup>

## Widener and its Alumni Continue to Spearhead Wills for Heroes Events

In memory of Lt. Joseph Szerbera, a New Castle County police officer killed in the line of duty, the law school coordinated a historic Wills for Heroes event at the Delaware City firehouse. Students, faculty, staff, and other volunteers prepared 139 wills for emergency responders and their families, making the event by far the largest in the law school's ongoing series through Wills for Heroes.



Kathleen Duffy Smith '91, center, counsels a couple in need of a will. Law students assisted her in preparing the documents.



Christina Fisher '08 (above right) organized a Wills for Heroes event through the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, attracting first responders from throughout Central Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Wills for Heroes honored her in July. WFH Pennsylvania Program Director Daniel JT McKenna said, "We've blossomed into the largest program in the nation. I am a little biased, but I think Christina is a fine example of what an attorney should be and a real testament to the Widener experience."

<sup>1</sup> Access the full text of Taishoff Professor Tom Reed's comments at [law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012](http://law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012).

<sup>2</sup> Profile of William Collins on p. 32. Access the full text of his comments at [law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012](http://law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012).

<sup>3</sup> The views presented in this interview are those of Major Collins and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Defense, the Department of Navy, or the U.S. Marine Corps.

Backlogs and delays have serious repercussions for all veterans in the system, not just those recently discharged. It took seven years for Lloyd Waters' case to reach its resolution.

VLC Staff Attorney and Pro Bono Program Coordinator Susan Saidel says, "The system is supposed to be non-adversarial, friendly. But it's very complex. Vets get frustrated. They give up."

More often than not, they need attorneys to help them slog through the VA's labyrinthine bureaucracy. But the length and complexity of the appeals process puts pressure on the small cadre of lawyers representing veterans in their appeals.

In short, the problem is three-fold: a bureaucracy hobbled by decades- or even centuries-old practices, a quickly growing need for its services, and a limited number of lawyers with the credentials to provide appropriate representation.

There is clearly no single solution, but Holbrook has some ideas. Chief among them: expanding and improving the direct legal assistance the clinic has provided for years. Students have traditionally provided much of the horsepower for these efforts. Recently, their increasing interests in practical skills development and public service have inclined them toward internship opportunities like the VLC.

Kerry Porter is a VLC student intern. She says, "It's practical, hands-on—doing research, talking to clients..." It's also eye-opening. "It was disheartening that there are veterans out there who need this service. I decided to go to law school for cliché reasons. I wanted to help people.... Doing veterans law was the first time I thought, 'OK, this is what I went to law school for.'"

Hilary Styer '11, now practicing in Oxford, Pennsylvania, concurs. "Working at the Veterans Law Clinic was one of the best experiences I had in law school.... I still use those skills today when advising my own clients in private practice."

**"When people ask me how I'm doing in law school, it's one of the first things I bring up. By far, the veterans law clinic... is one of the most rewarding experiences I've had here."**

Kerry Porter



**"The students have always been very interested in working with live clients, and they have great empathy for the vets we represent."**

Taishoff Professor Thomas J. Reed (Emeritus)

Beverly Waters says students were important in their case. "They do so much, she says. "They bring in new thinking."

However, space in the clinic is finite. In January 2011, Holbrook and Saidel launched a training program for area attorneys willing to take veterans appeals *pro bono*. After successfully completing CLE training in the discipline, the newly accredited veterans attorneys would become part of a VLC volunteer attorney network, providing direct representation to VLC clients. The clinic provides support, but the volunteer attorneys take the lead, dramatically increasing the clinic's reach.

The first CLE attracted a few volunteers. By spring of 2012, the number of active volunteers had grown to 60. Saidel says, "We get attorneys from other disciplines who want to help. It gives them the human contact they might not be getting in their own practice."<sup>4</sup>

Holbrook and Saidel then did what any entrepreneur worth his salt would do—they took to the road. Offering CLE programs in veterans representation, they trained more than 500 attorneys around the country in less than two years, teaching at conferences, online CLE programs, and in-house seminars. The VLC's website, [veteranslawclinic.org](http://veteranslawclinic.org), provides resources for veterans seeking counsel, attorneys looking for training and volunteer opportunities, and other law schools looking to follow Widener's lead. The website includes a "clinic in a box," which provides materials and training for law schools wishing to launch their own veterans law clinics.

<sup>4</sup> For information about opportunities to volunteer at the VLC, please call 302-477-2056.

<sup>5</sup> Your financial support can help a disabled veteran get necessary medical evaluations. To learn more, please call 302-477-2172.

Wilmington attorney Paul Lukoff, who practices with his own firm, Wilks, Lukoff & Bracegirdle, LLC, attended one of Holbrook's CLE courses. "I'm a veteran myself," he says, "and I'm at the stage in my career where I thought it would be appropriate to see where I might be able to use my experience in the law to help other veterans."

Lukoff's background included decades of experience with Prickett Jones & Elliott and in DuPont's legal department. His experience lay primarily in defense, but he had gotten involved in medical malpractice too. When he joined the VLC Pro Bono Program, Holbrook asked him to take the Waters' case.

Lukoff says, "I went out to the Christiana Hospital medical library to try to understand Mr. Waters' case. After I did that, I was in a position to consider the type of expert that I thought would be most appropriate in reviewing his records."

Schwannoma tumors are very rare. Neurologists with experience treating them are rarer still. Fortunately, the name that came to Lukoff's mind was that of Delaware neurologist Alan Fink, who had the necessary experience.

Lukoff says that Fink "understands what we call the forensic connection—being able to take medical information and apply it in a legal context."

Dr. Fink agreed to take the case. It was a turning point, but there was significant work to be done. "I had to rely a lot on Professor Holbrook whose understanding, like Professor Reed's, is significant. They're the ones who have been working on it on a daily basis working with the VA regs," says Lukoff.

Fink's review of Waters' file was both comprehensive and incisive, citing a number of specific errors in treatment that led to Waters' condition.

Instead of the neurosurgeon who had been treating Waters, the surgery had been performed by a second-year surgical resident, likely without supervision. No one had informed Beverly and Lloyd Waters that the surgeon would not be his treating neurosurgeon. Moreover, Beverly notes, "[There was] no indication that the surgical resident called for help when she got into trouble.... While [Lloyd] was in surgery, we went downstairs to eat lunch in the cafeteria and [the neurosurgeon] was down there... I said, 'What are you doing down here?' He said, 'I'm having lunch.'"

When closing Waters' wound, the resident had failed to close a suture properly. This allowed spinal fluid to leak, forming the pseudomenigocele that caused his disabling symptoms—a development that proper closure would have prevented. Once VA doctors discovered the pseudomenigocele, they failed to take remedial action.

Their appeal wound its way through the VA process, a machine greased this time by the presence of an independent, expert opinion. Holbrook says, "Veterans able to afford an independent medical and/or psychiatric evaluation have a much greater chance of proving this link and receiving critical benefits from the VA.... But our ability to provide this service is limited by budgetary constraints."<sup>5</sup>

In the summer of 2012, Lloyd and Beverly Waters received good news. The VA, acknowledging error, would compensate them for Lloyd's disability. The award was retroactive to 2005. All told, it took hundreds of hours by Veterans Law Clinic attorneys and students. On the open market, the value of this much time would have made it unavailable to the Waters. The VLC did it for free.

Beverly Waters is unequivocal: "It saved our lives."



Student Chris Barrett and Petty Officer Burns, USN

## Law School Joins "Welcome Home" and "Support & Resource Showcase" Programs for Veterans

When Media, Pennsylvania, celebrated its veterans with its 2012 Welcome Home Outreach and Awareness Program, Widener's Veterans Law Clinic was there, answering veterans' questions about the free assistance it provides, and screening potential clients.

In September, Widener Law School alumni, students, and faculty served as legal volunteers at the First Annual Service, Support & Resource Showcase Event for Veterans at New Hope Church in Harrisburg. They connected with local veterans and their families to explain how to access lawyers, how to navigate legal referral services, and how to select an attorney. Professor Starla Williams leads the Legal Advocacy Task Force of the Showcase Event.

# TEACHING LAW THE PRACTICAL WAY

*Six clinics in two states, innovative instruction in professionalism, intensive trial advocacy training, community engagement, field-specific institutes, and more speak to four decades of producing practice-ready legal professionals.*

In July 2012, the *Legal Intelligencer* reported that law schools, as measured by a recent ABA survey, have become more skills-oriented. The article quotes Hulett “Bucky” Askew, then the ABA’s consultant on legal education: “The survey responses reveal a renewed commitment by law schools to review and revise their curricula to produce practice-ready professionals.”

This movement is timely, and it serves students well. It also reflects what Widener Law has done since the beginning. The class of 2012 represented clients in a range of civil, administrative, and criminal matters and contributed more than 18,000 hours of pro bono legal service. They participated in hundreds of externships, clerkships, immersive skills trainings, and other professional experiences. They attended “Professional Development Day” and were the beneficiaries of classroom instruction designed specifically to inculcate professionalism.

Sometimes, as in the case of HELP: MLP, the Health Law Institute’s innovative medical-legal partnership,<sup>1</sup> they were breaking new ground. Students, faculty, and staff in this program, which partners with several Chester, Pennsylvania, healthcare and social service providers, provide free legal services to low-income individuals and families in Chester, Pennsylvania. The program has benefited hundreds in its first three years, and as one of only three law school-affiliated MLPs in the country (and the only one in our region), it serves as a model nationwide.

“Working with patients whose health outcomes are affected by their complex legal and social challenges, students quickly develop a practical approach to helping some of the poorest people in the area,” says Health Law Institute Director John Culhane. “It’s obvious that they’ve come to understand the intersection of law, medicine, and public health policy in ways that will serve them well throughout their careers.”

Certainly Professors Mary Ann Robinson and Alison Kehner were breaking new ground when they developed their three-part video series *Anticipating Consequences: Managing Client Expectations*. The videos walk law students through a series of day-to-day lawyering decisions involving time management, realistic workloads, and client management. They teach a difficult-to-quantify mix: ethics, legal skills, and practical considerations—in short, professionalism.

Environmental Law and Delaware Civil Law  
Clinic students take the oath allowing them  
the limited practice of law in Delaware.



Robinson says, “This kind of instruction should go beyond the traditional legal ethics course and beyond the practical research, reading, and writing skills we teach in Legal Methods.... We think it is important to engage our students in a broader dialogue about what the customs and mores of our profession are, to ensure that our students truly are ‘practice-ready’ at graduation.”<sup>2</sup>

It was the sort of training the Carnegie Foundation advocated in its 2007 report on legal education, which listed among American law schools’ shortcomings a lack of training in the professional, ethical, and social skills that make for effective, responsible attorneys.

In his commentary “The Importance of Professionalism,” Professor John Gedid noted, “Since its founding in the 1970s, Widener Law included professional skills training in its curricular offerings. In doing so, Widener was to some extent ‘swimming against the tide,’ because this was many years before those practices became fashionable in the legal academy.”

In 1971, the year of the Delaware Law School’s founding, the upstart law school had no established full-time faculty, no academic traditions, and at first all its students studied part-time. The faculty, recruited from Delaware’s bench, bar, and public sector, brought with them their day-to-day experience in court, in practice, and in government. They lent it freely to their students, balancing doctrinal instruction with real-world legal problems and the skills needed to address them.

The early classes thrived after graduation, their heterodoxical mix of practical and theoretical training—combined with an enterprising nature—yielding professional success. Looking back, Steve Barsamian ’75 said, “Our faculty were either practicing or retired lawyers; the type of instruction we received was more practical than strictly academic, and it worked.”

<sup>1</sup> The “Health, Education, and Legal assistance Project: a Medical-Legal Partnership (helpmlp.org)

<sup>2</sup> For more of Profs. Robinson and Kehner’s commentary on professionalism training, visit [law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012](http://law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012).

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“Clinics and externships use the methods of clinical legal education to take full advantage of those opportunities for our students. It’s a method of teaching in which students are confronted with problem situations of the sort that lawyers confront in practice. The students themselves deal with the problems under the supervision of an experienced attorney and are required to interact with others in attempts to identify and solve the problems. And—the most essential element—the student performance is subjected to critical review and reflection.”

— Fran Catania, Director of Clinical Programs



In 1984, the law school opened its first clinic, and then quickly partnered with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services to bring hands-on opportunities to any student willing to embrace them. The law school would open eight more clinics within a decade (some have since been folded into the law school’s current roster) and continues to develop new opportunities within each of them.

With the formation of the Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP), this year celebrating its 25th Anniversary (see sidebar) and the Hugh B. Pearce Trial Advocacy Competition in the late 1980s, the law school further committed itself to practical skills. Widener Harrisburg, adopting these practices, enjoyed early success in regional and national moot court competitions. In 2000, with these programs well-established on both campuses, the law school established the Trial Advocacy Institute (now the Taishoff Advocacy, Technology, and Public Service Institute), lending formal structure to an already burgeoning collection of activities devoted to professional skills. The same year, Professor E. John Wherry added to that collection, endowing the E. John Wherry Jr. Distinguished Lecture in Trial Advocacy and Professionalism.

Today, students develop skills through six clinics on two campuses, each boasting several subspecialty programs, as well as institutes and the Public Interest Resource Center. They try cases through civil law clinics. They teach financial literacy to underserved children in Wilmington through the Bank of America–funded Financial Literacy Education Program. They parse complex environmental law questions through two environmental law clinics.

The result? Students don’t just go to the classroom for doctrinal instruction or to the clinics for experience. In an interview, George Bibikos ’07 of K&L Gates in Harrisburg said, “At Widener I took a lot of government courses through the Law and Government Institute. It trained me to deal with the very complex government issues that arise in day-to-day life.”

Fran Catania, the Delaware campus’s Director of Clinical Programs, says “Clinical legal education is learning how to learn from experience. Clinics and Externships at Widener are transitional programs. They are about the transition from being a good law student to being a good lawyer. We have long had a first-rate clinical faculty who are all committed to helping each of our students to envision an engaged, rewarding legal career and to providing them experiences and tools they’ll need to realize those visions.”

## Remembering a Pioneer in Professional Skills Education

In 1988, the late E. John Wherry Jr., a prominent New Jersey trial lawyer and Widener Law faculty member, and then—Associate Dean Tom Reed saw the need for students to practice their courtroom skills in as realistic a manner as possible. Anticipating calls for practical skills training by more than two decades, they co-founded the Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP), a seven-day boot camp-style program that teaches law students courtroom skills under the supervision of eminent jurists and practitioners. Wherry supported the program financially, endowing its E. John Wherry Jr. Distinguished Lecture in Trial Advocacy and Professionalism in 2000. This year, ITAP's 25th Anniversary, the lectures featured former U.S. Congressman Patrick J. Murphy '98 and Hon. Douglas S. Lavine. Wherry and Reed also organized the Hugh B. Pearce Trial Advocacy Competition in 1989.

The law school recently celebrated Wherry's life and legacy, which in addition to his long association with Widener Law included serving as founding Dean at the University of Orlando School of Law. His portrait, funded by his ITAP colleagues, now hangs in Polishook Hall.

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Hon. Anne E. Thompson of the district of New Jersey, a close friend of Wherry's, paid homage to his genius in the courtroom and his legendary status in Mercer County. But, she noted, "I think that the life of the law he loved most was teaching here at Widener Law School.... I think John found his calling here, and his happiest days were spent in the Trial Advocacy Program."



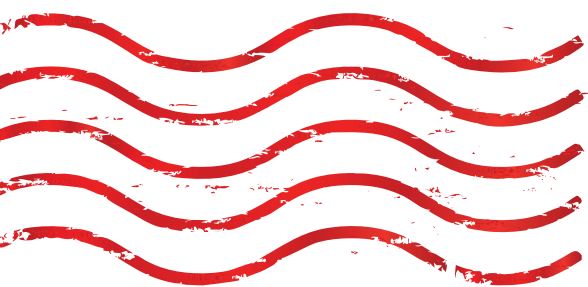
Friends and family of Prof. E. John Wherry, including Hon. Anne E. Thompson (right), join Dean Linda Ammons in unveiling his portrait.



From left: Prof. Fran Catania with Hon. Nathaniel C. "Nick" Nichols, Prof. Mary Ellen Maatman, and Prof. Paul Regan at the 2012 Delaware Campus commencement.

## Professor Fran Catania Appointed Director of Clinical Programs

Dean Linda Ammons recently appointed Professor Francis J. Catania Jr. Director of Clinical Programs in Delaware. He succeeds former Professor Nathaniel C. Nichols, now a Delaware County Court of Common Pleas judge. Professor Catania is former director of the Pennsylvania Civil Law Clinic and has taught at the law school since 1985.



# A Small Service—

## When No One is Looking



The call to *pro bono* service is compelling. Heeding it provides meaningful experience and does untold good for innumerable people. It is also an expectation within the profession. When fulfilled, it elevates reputations and advances careers. The question, therefore, is whether we heed calls from within or without. More to the point, what does one do when there is no expectation of service, much less recognition for it? When no one is looking? When one leads without having been called?

Michael Caruso '12 answered those questions. He has a clear and oft-expressed love for his country and those who defend it. He says, "My grandfather came here when he was a boy.... We all have a certain amount of pride for our country and the opportunities that it's afforded us. We're very much people that believe it's not what you can get from your country but what you can give to your country. I'm a big supporter of our troops. I think they're some of the most underappreciated people working for our country."

Caruso is also a coffee guy. "Every two hours," he jokes, "I need my fix." So, when confronted with the rigors of his first year in law school, the New Jersey native took refuge in his local coffee shop, Saint Thomas Roasters in Linglestown, Pennsylvania. "I loved it there," he says.

Located a few miles from the Harrisburg campus, Saint Thomas Roasters occupies Linglestown's former general store. Its architecture and accoutrements are classically American: pressed tin ceiling, wood trim and shelving, big front porch. A large green coffee roaster sits near the counter. The mood is mellow and inviting. Despite its centrality and popularity, it is a place where it's easy to find the quiet (and caffeine) necessary for ingesting large amounts of legal information and turning it into useful, applicable knowledge.

Not surprisingly, spending a significant portion of his first and second years there led to conversations with other regulars.

"While I was there," Caruso says, "I met a guy who had been in the service. His name was Todd Smith, and he and I got to talking." They talked about Mr. Smith's service overseas and, perhaps inevitably, coffee.







*“Let It Be Known That This Flag of The United States of America was flown on November 15, 2011 in honor of Widener University School of Law over the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Area Office, FOB Shank, Afghanistan, bearing witness to the sacrifices made to protect the freedom of the United States of America and the World in the Global War on Terror during Operation Enduring Freedom.”*

“One of his biggest complaints was that when you’re over there, you have nothing to remind you of home. My friend Todd said, ‘They send us this instant coffee. It’s nothing like we get from home.’ So, I said, ‘Why don’t we start sending over some coffee?’

“At the time, I was in a class on charitable organizations; it was with Professor Susan Friday. She was just so encouraging...I guess the idea really came from the fact that I was in that class. It was a bunch of things coming together that made me realize ‘Hey—why don’t I do something?’”



“We’re really kind of thrilled and humbled to be a part of it.”

—Geof Smith, owner of Saint Thomas Roasters in Linglestown, Pennsylvania.

The opportunity was right in front of him.

“I approached the guy that owns the coffee shop. His name is Geof Smith [no relation to Todd Smith]. He’s one of the nicest people you’ll ever meet. I said, ‘Geof, I have an idea. It would help the shop. It would help people overseas. Why don’t we have patrons come in—they’ll buy a pound of coffee, and they’ll leave it here, and at the end of the month we’ll bag this coffee that the person bought, grind it, and send it over to the troops.’”

Geof Smith says, “Mike—we got to know him because he was in here studying all the time, and he had this idea for coffee for the troops. I thought it was a great idea. One of my best customers, somebody that has become a really good friend, spent a year over there right after 9/11...Todd Smith. When Mike suggested it, I said, ‘Sure, if you set it up.’ All my customers got on board with it. We’d try to do it in ten-pound blocks. Todd sent a couple pounds over there; I had a guy that would come in every week and say, ‘Put me down for a pound of coffee.’ It was a really neat thing. It’s a very small thing we can do for [the troops], but they really appreciate the good stuff from the States, whether it’s coffee or anything else.”

Caruso was impressed by the reaction: “Thanks to the community, we were pretty successful. I think we got to send more than 150 pounds of coffee overseas just because people in this community cared about it. People in the community would drop off an address and say, ‘Hey, my son serves in this battalion, and it would be nice if they got coffee too.’ So it was kind of like we were giving people who were away from home a little something from home just by sending them coffee from the their hometown. They could share it with all their buddies.”

The gesture did not go unnoticed.

Caruso says, “We sent coffee to a bunch of troops, but this one in particular who was friends with Todd Smith, he was especially grateful, because he was from around here.”

Not long after sending a sizable shipment, Caruso received a package from Smith’s friend in Afghanistan—a flag, flown over FOB Shank in honor of the law school and in gratitude for the gesture. “He was just so happy,” says Caruso, “that he did what he did with the flag and the certificate. We’re really grateful for that.”

It was not a large or grand gesture—just a small service for those who put their lives on the line in defense of a nation of laws. And it was done when no one was looking.



“I always enjoyed volunteering. Taking [a class on] charitable organizations with Professor Friday, who gave so much of herself to be a lawyer for charitable organizations, doing whatever she could, whenever she could even though her busy schedule was so demanding, made me feel like I could do something to give back.”

—Michael Caruso '12, pictured here with Widener President James T. Harris III and Dean Linda L. Ammons, holding the flag and certificate sent by troops in Afghanistan.

## Faculty Publications

2012

Keep up with Widener Law faculty scholarship by subscribing to the Widener Law Legal Studies Research Paper Series from SSRN. This free email series delivers the latest articles by Widener Law faculty to your email inbox. Visit <http://www.ssrn.com/link/Widener-LEG.html> to subscribe.

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# Faculty News

**DEAN LINDA L. AMMONS** participated in several events as a result of her 2010 independent review of child sexual abuse policies and practices in the state of Delaware. These included attending Delaware Governor Jack Markell's signing of the tenth bill protecting abused and neglected children based on her recommendations and presenting "The Delaware Experience: A Pedophile Case Study and Changing State Laws" at the National Council Against Child Abuse in Huntsville, Alabama. She also served as keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Minority Bar in Pittsburgh and was the featured Black History Month speaker at a meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of Retired State Employees in Harrisburg. Other engagements included presenting to the Montgomery County (Pennsylvania) Bar Association's Women in the Law Committee in Norristown; presenting to the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Annual Conference in Lancaster; meeting with undergraduate students at the University of Puerto Rico; and a lecture about leadership at her law school alma mater, Ohio State University-Moritz College of Law in Columbus, Ohio.



**DIONNE E. ANTHON** presented "This Is Not Your Mother's Rubric: An Enhanced 'Electronic' Rubric to Facilitate Faster Feedback, Track Students' Overall Performance, and Discover Students' Strengths and Weaknesses" at the 15th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute.

**LARRY D. BARNETT** presented his paper, "A Macrosociological Study of Law on Divorce in Western Europe," at the 2012 Nordic Sociological Association conference held at the University of Reykjavik in Iceland. He also presented "Mutual Fund Regulation in Europe: An Empirical Test of a Macrosociological Framework for Law" at the International Conference on the Social Economy in Law in Oñati, Spain.

**ERIN DALY** presented "Exemplary or Exceptional: The Iraqi Transition in the Context of the Arab Spring," at the British Society for Middle Eastern Studies annual conference, "Revolution and Revolt: Understanding the Forms and Causes of Change," held at the London School of Economics. She gave a talk entitled "Constitutional Protection for Environmental Rights: Participation and Consultation" as part of a panel on environmentalism and democracy at the International Studies Association Annual Convention in San Diego. Professors Daly and **JAMES R. MAY** also organized a Workshop on Constitutional Environmental Law sponsored by the Widener Environmental Law Center. Professor Daly is the 2012-2014 H. Albert Young Fellow in Constitutional Law.

**JOHN C. DERNBACH** attended the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He participated in the Law and Sustainability panel discussion, as well as a panel devoted to his new book, *Acting as if Tomorrow Matters: Accelerating the Transition to Sustainability*.

**JULES EPSTEIN** co-chaired and presented at the Center for American and International Law's annual conference on innocence issues. Professor Epstein also spoke at the National Judicial College's Judicial Hearsay Training Webinar; at Widener Law's symposium "Issues of Race and Innocence in Capital Punishment"; at a Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Death Penalty Training; and at the West Virginia University Forensic Science Initiative training for defense counsel, where he lectured on "Forensic Science and the Law of Evidence." Professor Epstein also served as a course planner and presenter at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Annual Criminal Law Symposium, Capital Case Track; lectured on the Confrontation Clause and on Eyewitness Evidence to the Louisiana State Bench and Bar; and spoke about current issues in the law at the National Judicial College multi-day training for judges in Boston, Massachusetts. Professor Epstein is also serving as an advisor to Twin Cities Public Television's "Examining the Evidence" program on forensics education.



**JILL E. FAMILY** gave a presentation about immigration adjudication to the United Kingdom Ministry of Justice’s Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), which hears immigration appeals.

**ALAN E. GARFIELD** was recently honored with the 2012 Delaware Press Association’s Communication Contest Award in the category of Personal Opinion Column for “Honest debate at core of the Constitution.” The column was part of the monthly “Bench Press” opinion column that Garfield writes for *The News Journal*. He presented “Achieving Copyright’s Purpose” at the University of Oklahoma in connection with the opening of an exhibit on Disney Animation Art at the Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art; “Religious Freedom and Women’s Right to Health Care” at the ACLU of Delaware Annual Meeting; and “Separation of Church and State” at the Washington Square Citizens’ League.

**MICHAEL J. GOLDBERG** spoke about “Recent Developments at the NLRB” at a meeting of the Delaware State Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section.

**EILEEN GRENA-PIRETTI**, assistant dean and executive director of institutes on the school’s Delaware campus, and law school Overseer **DR. KATHLEEN MCNICHOLAS** ’06, LL.M. ’10, were recently installed to the Delaware Academy of Medicine board. Dr. McNicholas will serve as the board’s first female president; Assistant Dean Grena-Piretti is its first nurse member. Both women are also the first board members to hold law degrees.



Eileen Grena-Piretti ’92, left, and Dr. Kathleen McNicholas ’06, LL.M. ’10



**LAWRENCE A. HAMERMESH** led the organization of the Institute of Delaware and Corporate and Business Law’s CLE seminar “Fiduciary Duties at the Intersection of Federal Bankruptcy and State Corporate Law.” He also moderated a panel of state and federal bankruptcy judges whose discussion generated the idea of permitting bankruptcy courts to certify questions of law to the Delaware Supreme Court, an idea that has now been introduced as a proposed amendment (Senate Bill 221) to the Delaware State Constitution. Professor Hamermesh served as a panelist on “Enhanced Legal Ethics” at the Delaware State Bar Association CLE Conference, “Recent Developments in Corporate and Alternative Entity Law.” He spoke about “Regulating the Terms of Investment Securities” at the Villanova Corporate Law Society’s first annual Corporate Law CLE and made a similar presentation as keynote speaker at the ABA Business Law Section’s Federal Regulation of Securities Committee 2012 section meeting luncheon. He also spoke on the “State Law—Delaware Developments” panel at the Practicing Law Institute’s program “Corporate Governance—A Master Class 2012” and sat on a Common Cause—sponsored panel, “Citizens United: Its Influence in Delaware—Past, Present, & Future.” Professor Hamermesh continues to lead the Institute of Delaware Corporate and Business Law, authoring the problem for the 2012 Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition and blogging regularly on the institute’s site.

**ANNA P. HEMINGWAY** presented “Not Your Average Cup of Joe: Exploring Scholarship Ideas Beyond the Traditional Law Review” at the 15th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute. She was appointed to *The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute’s* Editorial Board.

**LESLIE A. JOHNSON** taught “Preparing for the Bar Exam” at both Brooklyn School of Law and Western New England School of Law for Kaplan/PMBR. She also taught “Estates and Trusts” as part of Kaplan’s nationwide bar preparation course. Professor Johnson received the Distinguished Jurist Award from the Moot Court Honor Society at the Delaware Inaugural Distinguished Jurist Interscholastic Competition.

**ALICIA BROKARS KELLY** presented “Better Equity for Elders: Basing Economic Relations Law on Sharing and Caring” at both the International Society of Family Law Conference at University of Iowa School of Law and the Family Law Scholars Conference at Fordham University School of Law, where she also presented a plenary: “Teaching Family Law: More Engaged Teaching & Learning.” Professor Kelly also helped organize the Feminist Legal Theory Scholars Conference hosted by George Washington University School of Law, where she participated as a commentator on Barbara Stark’s article “Transnational Surrogacy and International Human Rights.”

# Faculty News



**KENNETH T. KRISTL** argued the matter *Sierra Club et al. v. DNREC*, No. 634, 2011, before the Delaware Supreme Court in May. It is the final chapter of the Coastal Zone case the clinic has been litigating since August 2010 over the Wandendale Wastewater Treatment Facility in Sussex County.

**JAMES R. MAY** spoke about the “Implications of the Health Care Decision on Environmental Law,” for a national teleconference sponsored by the Environmental Law Institute and presented “Constitutionally Recognized Procedural Rights in Environmental Matters” at the 10th Annual Meeting of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. He also presented “Developments in Federal Courts and NEPA,” at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s 2012 Environmental Law Forum and was interviewed and quoted in various news accounts of *NIHB v. Sebelius*, the Supreme Court decision regarding the constitutionality of the Patient Protection Act. With Professor Erin Daly, he co-chaired “Constitutional Environmental Rights Worldwide” at Widener, presenting on judicial developments.

**JULIET M. MORINGIELLO** spoke on a panel about series LLCs in bankruptcy at the Institute of Delaware Corporate and Business Law’s CLE seminar, “Fiduciary Duties at the Intersection of Federal Bankruptcy and State Corporate Law.” In summer 2012, she served as program director for the 2012 Lausanne Summer Law Institute.

**PAUL L. REGAN** presented his paper, “Human Rights Compliance and Accountability for U.S. Multinational Enterprises,” at the 2012 Nordic Sociological Association Conference, “Trust and Social Change,” held at the University of Reykjavik in Iceland. He also taught a three-week class on the Delaware campus entitled “Advanced Concepts in Corporate Law” to a group of students and attorneys from Russia and the United Kingdom. At the Widener Law CLE seminar, “Fiduciary Duties at the Intersection of Federal Bankruptcy and State Corporate Law,” Professor Regan moderated a panel on good faith and the business judgment rule.

**MARY ANN ROBINSON, TROY RIDDLE,** and **REBECCA L. SCALIO** presented iCivics at special assemblies in public junior and middle schools throughout the state of Delaware as part of a project conducted by the Delaware Supreme Court and the Delaware State Bar Association Women and the Law Section.

**MICHAEL SLINGER** led a series of Civil War Book discussions at the Rachel Kohl Public Library in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania. The topics included the life of Daniel Sickles (a Tammany Hall Politician, Civil War General, and the first person to be acquitted of a murder charge due to a plea of temporary insanity); Lincoln and slavery; and the assassination of Lincoln and the attempts to bring CSA President Jefferson Davis to trial for treason following the Civil War. He also presented a lecture at Rachel Kohl on the treatment of POWs during the Civil War and attended the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College.

**AMANDA SMITH** presented “Preparing for Practice from Behind the Bench: Replacing the Traditional Office Memorandum with a Judicial Opinion” at the 15th Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute.

**ANDRE SMITH** presented “The Redistribution of Black Wealth Via Taxation” at the Critical Tax Scholarship Conference at Emory University. He was a guest lecturer at Drexel University, where he presented “If Hip-Hop is Dead, Did the Law Kill It? How Overzealous Enforcement of Copyright and Property Laws Promotes Sex and Violence in Hip-Hop.” His presentation was video-simulcast to West Virginia University as part of the Hip Hop and the American Constitution lecture series.

**ANDREW L. STRAUSS** spoke at the Lund Conference on Earth System Governance in Lund, Sweden, where he participated in a debate: “Should the United Nations System Have a Parliamentary Dimension?” He presented a panel discussion on “Transitional Justice, Reconciliation and Victim Centered Remedies” at the Africa and International Law: Taking Stock and Moving Forward conference held at Albany Law School. He also presented a panel discussion on “The International Court of Justice: Can its Founders’ 20th Century Ambitions be Realized in the 21st Century?” at the ILSA Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

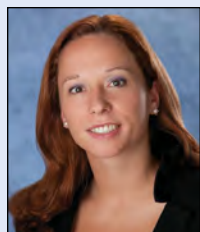


Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development Andrew Strauss at the Lund Conference on Earth System Governance in Lund, Sweden.

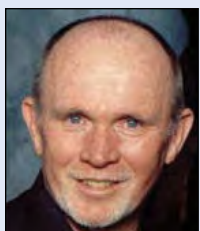
**MICAH J. YARBROUGH** served as a panelist on “Developing an Institutional Outcome and Assessment Plan” at the Law School Admissions Council’s Academic Assistance Training Workshop in Denver, Colorado. The panel provided strategies and suggestions for those seeking to develop a plan for assessing their academic assistance programs.



# New Faculty Profiles



Assistant Professor **CHRISTINE D. ALLIE** joins the Delaware faculty. She is a Florida Graduate Tax Scholar at the University of Florida's Levin College of Law, where she is completing her SJD in Taxation. She holds a JD from the University of Washington School of Law; an LL.M from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland; and a BA from George Mason University. Ms. Allie has consulted for Corrotherm International USA, Inc.; served as Senior Law Clerk for the Honorable Thomas J. Aquilino, Jr., of the U.S. Court of International Trade; and practiced law with Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. She will teach Federal Income Tax and related topics.



**DONALD A. BROWN** is the Environmental Law Center's Scholar in Residence for Sustainability and Ethics in Harrisburg. He has served on Penn State University's faculty; as Program Director of the Collaborative Program on the Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change; as an environmental lawyer for Pennsylvania and New Jersey; and as Program Manager for UN Organizations at the EPA Office of International Environmental Policy. Professor Brown is also director of the Pennsylvania Environmental Research Consortium. He has written and lectured extensively, including on his blog [ethicsandclimate.org](http://ethicsandclimate.org).



Visiting Professor **LANCE COLE** will teach Business Organizations and a Seminar—Congressional Investigations—in Harrisburg. Professor Cole is Director of the Center for Government Law and Public Policy Studies and Professor of Law at Penn State Dickinson School of Law. He also served as a member of the 9/11 Commission staff team responsible for investigating counterterrorism intelligence collection and law enforcement in the U.S.; as Deputy Democratic Special Counsel on the Senate Whitewater Committee; and in the Corporate Securities Practice Group of Debovoise & Plimpton LLP.



Visiting Professor **CHRISTOPHER R. SMITH** will teach Health Law. He has served as Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs at the National Community Pharmacists Association; as a Legal Fellow to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Majority Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, and as Special Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland. He has also practiced law with McMahan & Associates in Washington, D.C. and Gleason, Flynn, Emig & Fogelman in Rockville, Maryland.



## Chris Fromm '99 Joins National Advisory Council

As the Widener Law National Advisory Council's newest member, **CHRIS FROMM** '99 will lend the law school his substantial experience and expertise in a range of matters. He is Executive Director of Institutional and Supplemental Programs at Kaplan Bar Review, where he consults, lectures, and develops curriculum for early start and bar preparation courses. He has passed the Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Colorado, and Arizona bar exams and serves as an adjunct professor at several schools including Brooklyn Law School, Ave Maria School of Law, Western New England School of Law, UMASS School of Law, Cardozo, TSU's Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and Tulsa University School of Law. Mr. Fromm's experience also includes six years in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, where he served from his graduation in 1999 until 2005, specializing in 4th amendment search and seizure issues in the Special Narcotics Prosecution Unit. Mr. Fromm and his wife Christina reside in Los Angeles, California and are expecting their first child in January 2013.

# FACULTY IN THE



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## New York Times

“A head-on attack gets you nowhere. But there can be a tipping point when the quantity of the inconsistencies, or sometimes the nature of them, raises doubts.”

—Jules Epstein, on testimony in the Jerry Sandusky case

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## The News Journal

“Personally, I think it’s crazy that the fate of the most important health care reform in decades depended upon the vote of one justice. After all, this is a democracy. Policy should usually be made by the people’s elected representatives, not nine unelected judges.”

—Alan Garfield, writing about the Supreme Court’s decision concerning the Affordable Care Act.

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## The Guardian

“If you ask people what they think, it’s very predictable. Democrats support it; Republicans oppose. But when you parse out the individual parts of it, there are a lot of pieces that people like. Once it comes into place it will become background and people will just live with it. In two years from now there won’t be anything for people to yell about.”

—John Culhane, discussing the Affordable Care Act’s consequences

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## cbsnews.com

“Part of that sentence was the judge saying I want everyone on Wall Street quaking in their boots.”

—Jules Epstein, commenting on sentencing in high-profile cases

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## philly.com

“If Congress tries to force us to eat broccoli, we have the power to stop it.

The slippery-slope argument undervalues the people’s ability to control the national agenda, and it ignores the way our Constitution protects us from congressional overreach.”

—Erin Daly, prior to the Supreme Court’s decision on the Affordable Care Act

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## Arizona Republic

“It solidifies what we already knew or understood. Immigration law is the realm of the federal government. The federal power over immigration law is big. It really left a very narrow opening for the states.”

—Jill Family, commenting on the Supreme Court’s June ruling on Arizona’s Senate Bill 1070

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## Philadelphia Inquirer

“Independence...has a downside. An independent judge exercises policy-making discretion without accountability to the people.”

—Michael Dimino, commenting on Pennsylvania judicial appointments

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## BNA Daily Environmental Report

“When we talk about sustainability and we use journey and destination language, it’s easy to think that any progress towards the destination gets you closer to the destination. But because we live in a dynamic world, you can actually be farther away after you get started. And that is exactly what has happened with the United States.”

—John Dernbach, on greenhouse gas emissions

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## New York Times

“The Montana case would not be an appropriate occasion for summary reversal simply because it’s an extremely important issue.”

—Laura K. Ray, prior to the Supreme Court’s ruling on Citizens United

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## CNBC.com

“Saying ‘You screwed up’ is not going to get you a seat at the litigation table. Dimon’s characterization is not something you want to make a securities lawsuit about.”

—Larry Hamermesh, on reaction to JPMorgan Chase & Co’s \$2 billion trading loss

#### Fox News

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“An underrepresentation of a particular group is a red flag...but underrepresentation by itself is not proof of a violation.”

—Michael Goldberg, on the possibility that President Obama’s Chicago Campaign Office’s lack of diversity violates employment law

#### WHPTV.com

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“You don’t have a constitutional right to make threats, but you do have a constitutional right to express political hyperbole even in violent terms. The question is whether a reasonable person would be in fear of someone who makes these kinds of statements.”

—Michael Dimino, commenting on freedom of speech, hate speech, and threats

#### Patriot-News

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“[Catholics] are simply asserting the same right that the Pilgrims brought to America: the right to live and work in Catholic institutions in a way that gives life to their faith. It would be ironic if it turned out that today, religious liberty does not guarantee Catholics the right to live and work as Catholics in the institutions of the Catholic Church.”

—G. Randy Lee, on the HHS mandate that employers include birth control in their health insurance coverage for employees

#### Newark Post

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“But for Louis Redding and others, like Thurgood Marshall, I would not be standing here before you today as the dean of the Widener School of Law.”

—Dean Linda Ammons, on Louis Redding, the first African American in Delaware to be admitted to the state bar

In the first half of 2012, Widener Law faculty were quoted in the following:

<i>ABA Journal</i>	<i>News Journal</i>
<i>ABC News</i>	<i>Newsday</i>
<i>Altoona Mirror</i>	<i>NPR, Radio Times</i>
<i>AOL Energy</i>	<i>PA Environmental Digest</i>
<i>Arizona Republic</i>	<i>Patriot-News</i>
<i>Associated Press</i>	<i>Philadelphia Inquirer</i>
<i>Baltimore Sun</i>	<i>Pittsburgh Post Gazette</i>
<i>BET.com</i>	<i>Pittsburgh Tribune-Review</i>
<i>Bloomberg.com</i>	<i>Reuters</i>
<i>BNA Daily Environment Report</i>	<i>Sacramento Bee</i>
<i>Boston Herald</i>	<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i>
<i>Bradenton Herald</i>	<i>Seattle Times</i>
<i>Business Insurance</i>	<i>Slate.com</i>
<i>Business Live</i>	<i>Sports Illustrated.com</i>
<i>CBS News</i>	<i>Standard Speaker</i>
<i>Central Penn Business Journal</i>	<i>State College News</i>
<i>Centre Daily Times</i>	<i>Statehousenewsonline.com</i>
<i>Christian Science Monitor</i>	<i>The Deal</i>
<i>Citizens Voice</i>	<i>The Guardian</i>
<i>CNBC.com</i>	<i>The Root</i>
<i>Contra Costa Times</i>	<i>The Sentinel</i>
<i>Daily Caller</i>	<i>The Times-Tribune</i>
<i>Delaware First Media</i>	<i>Triangle Business Journal</i>
<i>Delaware Law Weekly</i>	<i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i>
<i>Detroit Free Press</i>	<i>USA Today</i>
<i>Forbes</i>	<i>WAKR-AM Akron News Now</i>
<i>FoxNews.com</i>	<i>Wall Street Journal</i>
<i>HispanicBusiness.com</i>	<i>Wayne Independent</i>
<i>Houston Chronicle</i>	<i>WBOC TV CBS 16</i>
<i>Huffington Post</i>	<i>WDEL 1150 AM</i>
<i>JD Journal</i>	<i>WFMZ-TV</i>
<i>KBOI-AM</i>	<i>WHYY Newsworks.org</i>
<i>KOMU.com</i>	<i>WTF-FM 89.5 Radio Smart</i>
<i>Las Vegas Sun</i>	<i>Talk</i>
<i>Lebanon Daily News</i>	<i>WNYC-FM/AM</i>
<i>Legal Theory Blog</i>	<i>Worcester Telegram</i>
<i>MSN News</i>	<i>WPMT Fox 43</i>
<i>MSNBC.com</i>	<i>WTFX-TV Fox 29</i>
<i>National Law Journal</i>	<i>Yahoo! News</i>
<i>New Civil Rights Movement</i>	<i>York Daily Record</i>
<i>New York Daily News</i>	<i>York Dispatch</i>
<i>New York Observer</i>	
<i>New York Post</i>	
<i>New York Times</i>	

## Faculty Spotlight

Distinguished Professor  
Alan Garfield

In his teaching and scholarship, Alan Garfield likes to explore the legal fabric that's stretched—often thinly—over our Constitution's framework. With 225 years passed since the Constitution's ratification, there's a lot of fabric to explore.

**I**n celebration of this longevity, Congress created Constitution Day in 2005. Widener celebrated with a program on its main campus; Alan Garfield was the keynote speaker. The opportunity made him think not just about specific constitutional issues, but about the document as a whole, how we understand it, and how we use (and misuse) it.

"It made me focus on why we were celebrating and what should be done," he says. "I thought it was a very welcome opportunity for Americans to think about what our core values are and to what extent we are achieving them."

Having marshaled his thoughts, he put them in an op-ed column for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"That launched my op-ed career. The next year, working with [Widener Law Public Relations Officer] Mary Allen, I made a contact with *The News Journal*. My sense was that if no effort was taken to do something for Constitution Day, it would be like a lot of national holidays that are never heard of. So I pitched this idea of having an essay collection." He went about soliciting Delaware leaders for their contributions, and they responded.

"The first year we had the governor, state senators, judges, Delaware Supreme court judges... quite a good turnout." Since then the contest has grown to include corporate and community leaders, U.S. Senators, high school students from every district in the state, scholars, and many others.

This is no small undertaking, and Garfield has immersed himself in the project. He plans the contest and surrounding programs, solicits essays, and develops themes. It has also given him a public platform to discuss critical constitutional issues as they arise.

"I started to get a little bit more courageous about writing op-eds and wrote quite a few for *The News Journal* and the *Inquirer*," he says. "Then in 2009, I approached *The News Journal* about writing a monthly column called 'Bench Press.' Mostly what I do is write about current Supreme Court cases, but I also write about other constitutional issues that are in the news."

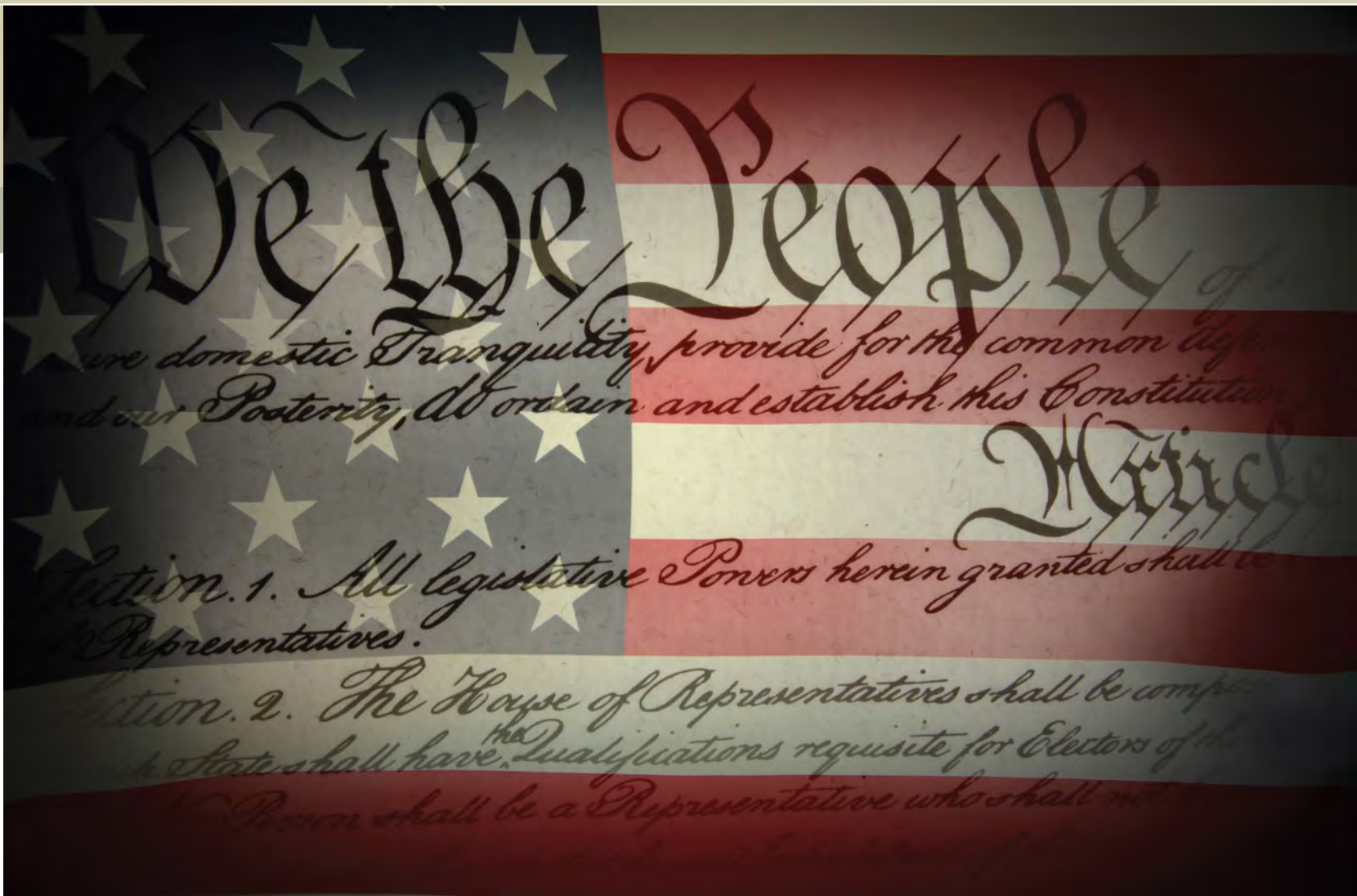
"Bench Press" appears monthly from October, when the Supreme Court opens, to June, when it issues its final decisions. Now in its third year,

"So don't be fooled. No political party has a monopoly on the 'correct' interpretation of the Constitution. And politicians who claim that the Constitution's text is all you need to know are simply revealing their ignorance.

"Let's commit to an honest debate about how to stay true to our values. Sure, we'll often disagree—sometimes fiercely. But the cacophony we create from an honest debate is the music the Framers meant us to play."

Distinguished Professor Alan Garfield in his award-winning column, "Honest Debate at core of Constitution."





it brings complex, sometimes touchy legal issues to the attention of the public in a manner far removed from the stridency of so much recent political debate.

Its informal tone and deft treatment of polarizing issues has not gone unnoticed. One “Bench Press” column was runner-up for the 2011 Delaware Press Association Communication Contest Award in the personal opinion column category. In 2012, another piece, “Honest debate at core of Constitution,” won outright. It advanced to a National Federation of Press Women competition and took first place in that competition’s personal opinion column category as well.

The piece explains patiently but authoritatively the ambiguities inherent in the Constitution. It is perhaps the ultimate in service journalism: how to understand the laws that underlie all others in this country.

“The constitution starts with ‘We the People,’ Garfield says. “It’s about popular sovereignty—that we are the governors and we are the sovereigns. A system like that only works well when the people are engaged and informed and can evaluate things in a somewhat

sophisticated way. I see the Constitution Day program and my column as my efforts to help better educate people. A lot of these issues are complicated. There are good arguments on both sides, and policy choices have to be made. I want them to see the complexity of the issues, not just get the sound bites that they too often get from politicians and talking heads.”

Was it his lifelong ambition to teach the public how to understand the Constitution? “This wasn’t what I was planning,” he says. “I thought I’d do something in the public interest, but the truth is I didn’t have a clear picture. Students shouldn’t feel bad if they don’t know either. I wanted to make the world a better place, and law is a vehicle to do that.”

“I’m incredibly lucky to have this job. Educating people in and of itself is a very important thing to do. Watching light bulbs go off is incredibly gratifying.”

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For Alan Garfield’s work, including past “Bench Press” columns, visit [http://works.bepress.com/alan\\_garfield/](http://works.bepress.com/alan_garfield/).

## Campaign Update

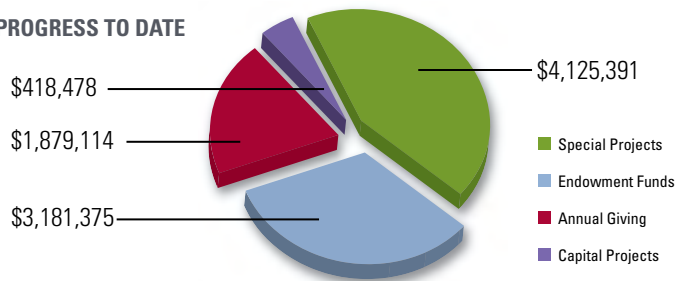
As of June 30, 2012

At the end of Fiscal Year 2011-2012, the *Taking the Lead* comprehensive campaign total stood at \$9,604,358—80% of the campaign’s \$12 million goal.

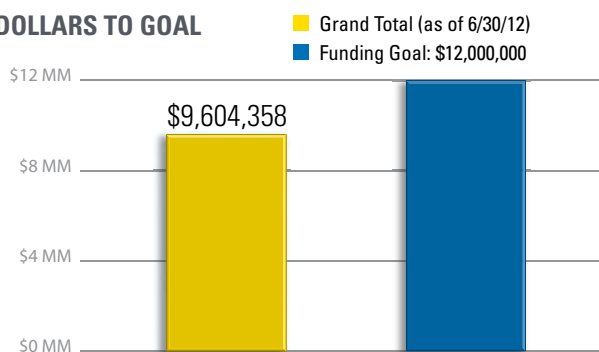
We are deeply grateful. The support of our alumni and friends has had a real and substantial impact on Widener Law, enabling it to enhance its signature programs, scholarship resources, faculty efforts, infrastructure, and much more.

Please know that your ongoing support will provide the resources necessary for Widener Law not only to move ahead in key areas, but to continue producing the sort of leaders that have made so much of our progress possible.

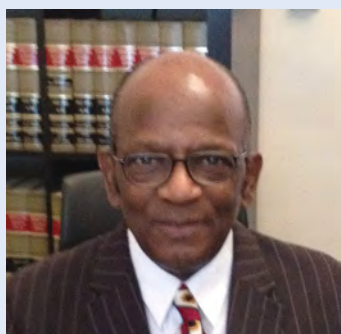
### PROGRESS TO DATE



### DOLLARS TO GOAL



Carl Battle '82



Leon Williams '82

## Carl Battle '82 and Leon Williams '82 Establish Scholarship

Through their generous gift establishing the *Carl Battle and Leon Williams African-American Scholarship Fund*, classmates Carl Battle '82 and Leon Williams '82 gave the law school's diversity efforts a boost.

Mr. Battle, a member of the law school's National Advisory Council, said, "We started the Carl Battle and Leon Williams African-American Scholarship Fund because we wanted to give something meaningful back to Widener Law in view of the solid legal education we received. We also wanted to support the great work that Dean Ammons is doing and make a positive impact on Widener Law School's diversity efforts. This is just one of several avenues in which we are contributing to Widener Law to help build a better institution and a better legal profession. We encourage all of our alumni to help foster excellence at Widener Law."

## The Quiet, Confident Leadership of Walter and Alice '92 Strine



In the late 1990s, when the law school needed to upgrade and expand its Delaware Campus facilities, it took broad support to do the job. Anyone strolling through the law building's Strine Atrium will know that law school overseer Alice Washco Strine '92 and her husband, Walter Strine, led the way.

**B**ut while the atrium is a visible reminder of their commitment, less obvious is the longevity of their support—they have contributed every year since Mrs. Strine's graduation—and their willingness to put their resources in the service of Widener Law's students through the unheralded but indispensable Widener Law Fund. In 2009, as the law school prepared to go public with its comprehensive campaign, they construed its title—*Taking the Lead*—literally, becoming critical leadership donors. And they did it in elegant fashion, substantially increasing their support for the Widener Law Fund and asking for no special recognition or consideration. Why? We recently spoke with Mrs. Strine to find out.

### **Why do you give back?**

My husband Walter and I contribute to make a better world and we have a good time doing it!

Widener University has awarded six graduate degrees to members of our family—more than any other individual university. It seems appropriate to express our appreciation and loyalty.

I am proud to be a graduate of Widener Law; I am proud of its accomplishments and its growth. We give back to help that group continue to grow and expand. (And, by the way, with our current system of taxation, it pays to give back!)

### **Why did you increase your giving so generously in response to *Taking the Lead*?**

We took the opportunity of the campaign to expand our commitments to the law school. All graduates need to do is to revisit the campus to witness the facility and program enhancement made possible by the campaign.

### **What has a Widener Law degree done for you?**

It has enhanced my conversations with my husband and armed me with impeccable credentials and knowledge. It has beautifully expanded the organizations and individuals I have been able to serve, and has definitely led to greater personal as well as career success.

### **What is your proudest achievement when it comes to Widener?**

It is the ability to expand my contact with the leadership of the university and to participate in the planning of the law school's future growth and development.

### **Where would you like to see the law school in the future?**

I would like to see a continuation of the development of a positive image through the accomplishments of our graduates and staff, both national and international. A greater acknowledgement and sense of pride would encourage an increased level of participation and financial support.

# 20-Year Lead

More than 40 years ago, Delaware's law school began its march from upstart to leader. Our continued progress could not have happened without the support of our alumni and friends, many of whom have supported the law school not just over years, but over decades. Below we list individuals whose giving has spanned 20 years or more. We are deeply grateful for their commitment to Widener Law, for their willingness to show leadership again and again.

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Robert Adochio '78	Samuel Costa '75	Lawrence Gilman '79
Christopher Almy '75 & Susan Almy	Michael Cunningham Jr. '84	Jay Ginsburg '88 & Sherry Ginsburg
Ronald Amarant '85 & June Amarant	C. Salvatore D'Alessio '87 & Anita D'Alessio	Joel Glass MD & Ellen Glass '83
Rad Maric & Mary Androski-Maric '79	Charlene Davis '84	Michael Goldberg & Anne Goldberg
Norman & Ann Ashworth	Perry de Marco Sr. '75	Howard R. Golde '77
Alexis L. Barbieri '82	Michael DeFino '75 & Valerie DeFino	Ronald Goldfaden '76
Peter Barnes III '85	Joseph DelSordo '75 & Sandra DelSordo	Ronald Gordon '78 & Susan Gordon
Steven Barsamian '75	Frank DePasquale Jr. '86 & Lisa DePasquale	Eric Grayson '79 & Ilean Grayson
Alan Belfus '76	Stephen Dicht '78	Ann Green '78
Michelle Coopersmith Berk '81	James & Cathleen Diehm	Carol Haight '85
Gerald Berkowitz & Alene Berkowitz '78	Linda Blanchfield Dillow '83	James Haley Jr. '91
Richard Eugene Berl '79 & Sheree Berl	Eugene '81 & Marie Janton DiPrinzio	Patricia Hall '81
Hon. Robert Blasi '75 & Alice Blasi	J. William Ditter III '76 & Deanna Ditter	Charles Halpin III '76 & Judith Halpin
Veronica B. Boettger '75	Robert Dluge Jr. '75 & Debra Dluge	Raymond Hancock '79
John Branigan '77	Hon. Michael A. Donio	Richard Handler '77 & Susan Handler
Ann Britton	Thomas Donnelly & Lucille Bova Donnelly '87	Ronnie Ellen Gidseg Harrison
Hon. Jeffrey Brown '78	Bradford Dorrance '80	Selma Hayman '86
Alan Budman '77	Roseanne Raimondo Duffy '89	William Heimbuch '80
Kyle Burch '83	David Twaddell & Karen Durkin '79	Jeffrey Herman '86
Louis Cambria '87	Don Erlandson '75	Harry Hill & Louise Hill
Hon. John P. Capuzzi '88	Thomas Etter Jr. '75 & Susan Etter	William Himmelreich '80
Wayne Carey '81 & Jane Carey	Richard Farwell '78	David Hodas
Ned & Kate Carp	Brian Fischer '79 & Katie Fischer	Roger Holcomb '84 & Catherine Holcomb
John Carroll III '81 & Barbara Carroll	Karen Fleming '80	Robert Honecker Jr. '81 & Kim Roberts
Joel Chernock '76	James Fox '76	Joanne Horn '80
Vincent Ciecka '75	Michael Fromhold '77 & Susan Fromhold	Sherry L. Horowitz
Stephen Cirillo '81 & Linda Cirillo	Carl Funk '83	Barbara Silver Hutcheon '80
Dennis Citron '75	Paula Garrison	Richard James '75
Leslie Noftsinger Coates '78	John & Carol Gedid	Guy V. Johnson '81 & Diane Lawson
Thomas Collins '78	Claudia Genuardi '81	Mary Ann Jordano '89
Martin Convery '89	Lawrence Gibson '84	Michael Joseph '75
Bob Cooper & Eileen Cooper '76		Joseph Kalkbrenner '82
Henry '76 & Margaret Costa		Lawrence Keener-Farley '83



YEARS

J. Patrick & Victoria Kelly  
 Rosemary Killian '82  
 Jean Kissane '86  
 Jay '77 & Bebe Kivitz  
 Gerald Klein '86 & Sandra Klein  
 Thomas Klingensmith '76  
 & Carmen Klingensmith  
 Bruce Kmosko '80  
 Charles Knothe '80 & Mary Knothe  
 Jonathan Krinick & Susan Goldberg  
 Samuel Landy '85 & Laurie Landy  
 David Lank '80  
 Randy & Brenda Lee  
 John Leekley Jr. '75  
 Steven Levinson  
 & Pamela Babett Levinson '85  
 Gary Linarducci '75 & Kathleen Linarducci  
 Michael Lione '79 & Madeline Lione  
 F. Kevin Lynch '79 & Isabel Warren-Lynch  
 John Lynch '89 & Christina Lynch  
 Daniel Maisano '78  
 Richard S. Marx  
 William Massa '86  
 Mark Mattia '81  
 Peter Mattoon & Joan Mattoon  
 Michael Maucher '83  
 & Marguerite Maucher  
 John McAllister Jr. '86  
 Jeffrey McCullough '83  
 & Monica McCullough  
 Bernard McFadden '84  
 & Kathleen McFadden  
 Hon. James McGann '78  
 Edward McGlinchey Jr. '77  
 & Margaret McGlinchey  
 Eugene McGurk Jr. '78  
 Janis Melfi '81  
 Louis Mellinger '76 & Rebecca Mellinger  
 Judith Melman  
 George Miller Jr. '81 & Debra Miller  
 Teresa Miller '78  
 Hon. Charles P. Mirarchi Jr.  
 & Josephine Mirarchi

Hon. Marianne O. Mizel  
 Frederick R. Mogel  
 Richard Morrissey '76  
 Katharine Nelson  
 Michael & Marion Rothbart Newbold '85  
 Hon. Nathaniel & Cheryl Nichols  
 Joseph Norris Jr. '76 & Janet Norris  
 Arthur Novello '86  
 Daniel C. Nowell '81  
 Cornelius O'Brien III '85  
 & Margaret O'Brien  
 Hon. John O'Grady, Jr. '77  
 Jeffrey Orenstein '85 & Marla Orenstein  
 John Pachkowski '88  
 & Mary Alice Peeling '91  
 Hon. Paul Panepinto '76  
 & Nancy Panepinto  
 Stephen Permut MD '85  
 & Marylene Permut  
 G. Carter Pierce '75 & Frances Pierce  
 Jesse Lawn Pleet '81  
 Alan '75 & Rita '75 Polonsky  
 Natalie Pouch-Kavetsky '84  
 William Prickett '89 & Elizabeth Prickett  
 John Pund Jr. '86 & Kristen Truitt-Pund  
 Hon. William Quillen & Marcia Quillen  
 Barry Rabin '83  
 Larry Raiken '75 & Michele Raiken  
 Laura & Philip Ray  
 Walter Joseph Ray Jr. '75 & Linda Ray  
 Thomas & Emily Reed  
 Joseph Risi '82  
 Thomas Roman '75  
 Joseph & Joan Rosenthal  
 Philip Ross '75  
 Jeffrey Roth '80 & Patti Roth  
 Arlene Rubin '88  
 Michael Rubin '75 & Bonnie Rubin  
 Gregory Rubis '86  
 Allan Rusten  
 Mary Sabulsky '83  
 Hon. Paul R. Sacks '75

Alexander & Nancy Sarcione  
 Janice Sawicki '75  
 Andrew Schaeffer '87  
 John Schmutz & Eileen Schmutz  
 Anthony Sciolla Jr. '75  
 Irving Seltzer '85  
 Martin Sendek '85 & Laury Sendek  
 Michael Sherlock  
 & Mary Schnappauf Sherlock '83  
 Mitchell Shore '81 & Penny Shore  
 Gail O'Neal Shuey '86  
 Barbara Siegell '80  
 Patricia Sinclair '77  
 Louis Slawe '75 & Susanne Slawe  
 Marcia Sless '87  
 Buck Smith  
 Steven Smith & Lynn Smith '83  
 Hon. Lee Solomon '78 & Dianne Solomon  
 Ronald Steen & Tempe Steen '83  
 Jerry Steiner '78  
 Walter M. & Alice W. Strine '92  
 David Taylor '81  
 Vernon Taylor '80  
 Roger Ullman '80 & Minnie Ullman  
 Michael Valoris '79  
 Phillip Van Embden '78  
 & Florence Van Embden  
 David T. Videon '80 & Lynn Videon  
 Donald Walsh & Joyce Walsh  
 J. Scott Watson '84 & Laura Watson  
 Judge John K. Welch  
 John Wetzel '75 & Donna Wetzel  
 Daniel Wilton '76 & Margaret Wilton  
 Herbert & Harriet Wolfson  
 Charles Woolson Jr. '77 & Mary Woolson  
 Donald Young '77 & Debra Young

## Alumnus Profile

Major William J. Collins Jr. '94

# Double Major Marine

U.S. Marines who are wounded, injured, or who fall ill while serving their country can be placed on the Temporary Disabled Retired List. Only about 1% of those transferred to the TDRL return to active duty; Bill Collins is among the 1%.



**M**ajor Bill Collins '94 was and is a Marine. For years, he was *prepared*—prepared to go where the Marines sent him. Prepared to assume any number of responsibilities. Prepared to undergo hardship and discomfort. Prepared to lay down his life in service of his country, its people, and their freedoms.

But in 2008, he was unprepared—“very unprepared,” he says, for what the Marine Corps told him to do: leave.

The Marines had taken him and his family throughout the United States, the Pacific Rim, and the Middle East. Deployed twice to Iraq, he had used his military and legal training in service of the Iraqi people as they faced unparalleled difficulty.

But he had become sick. In 2008, after his second medical evacuation from Iraq and a subsequent transfer to the Temporary Disabled Retired List (TDRL), he was back in the states and facing the end of his military career. He had processed through the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES). As its name implies, IDES is critical in determining a Marine’s fitness for duty. In Collins’ case, the decision was unfavorable. “It felt premature and disappointing,” he says, “and came when I was least prepared to make a major life transition.” He was unprepared to no longer be a Marine.\*

A career in the armed forces had always been his expectation—“I just assumed military service was yet another example of the many expected responsibilities of citizenship in a young man’s life.” The Oreland, Pennsylvania, native and La Salle University graduate was commissioned as a Marine Corps officer before his second year of law school (though not before taking two years to train for the U.S. Men’s Rowing Team while working as a paralegal for Berger and Montague PC in Philadelphia). He brought his penchant for service and leadership to the still-new Harrisburg campus, serving as the founding president of the campus’ St. Thomas More Law Society in 1992, founded with the help of his friends Ed Cherry '94 and Tom Capper '94.

After graduating, he entered the Marine Corps Judge Advocate Division. He spent the next 14 years holding a wide variety of positions: Chief of Legal Assistance, Defense Counsel, Staff Judge Advocate, Government Appellate Counsel, Professor of Law, and Deputy Director of Character Education at the U.S. Naval Academy. He was a detention release authority conducting 72-hour detainee reviews in Iraq and served as the G-3 Police and Border Transition Team Coordinator for Multi-National Forces West (MNF-W) in Iraq. He says, “One of the most rewarding tasks was being part of the Rule of Law Working Group for MNF-W and helping the Iraqis in Al Anbar Province hold their first civilian criminal trials since the start of the war.”

He had gone where his orders took him. Now, in 2008, he had no orders. Moreover, he had come home to a country on the brink of economic collapse.

It was in these difficult times that his record of service worked in his favor. The outgoing director of the Department of Labor's "Hire Vets First" program, Bill Offutt, saw Collins' LinkedIn profile and recommended he contact Patricia Orsini, Program Director of the non-partisan House of Representatives Wounded Warrior Program. His extensive experience landed him an interview in then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office, where he was hired to serve as an Advisor on Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Policy and Outreach. The program promotes reemployment of wounded veterans. He could relate. Moreover, after years on the ground, this was a new perspective: "The opportunity to observe and be part of government at this level was incredible."

At the conclusion of his fellowship in February 2011, he accepted a senior staff position, offered by incoming Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee Jeff Miller (R-FL), serving as Staff Director and Counsel for the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. The subcommittee, chaired by former Philadelphia Eagle Rep. Jon Runyan (NJ-3), had oversight over the Veterans Benefits Administration's compensation, pension, and insurance programs as well as the National Cemetery Administration. It shared joint oversight over Arlington National Cemetery.

It was another opportunity to help those who shared his experience. "Helping draft and move legislation through the committee that would have meaningful benefit for fellow veterans, and then being on the House floor for its debate and passage, is an experience that will be difficult to equal."

Yet, a new experience in an old form would come his way. The Physical Evaluation Board, which periodically examines and reviews those on the TDRL, found him "fit to return to duty."

Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi officiated at Collins' recommissioning ceremony. It was only appropriate. "It was the House of Representatives' Wounded Warrior Fellowship Program she created as Speaker that brought me to Washington," he says.

"It also seemed the best way to mark the closing of the circle.... I guess you could say my recommissioning ceremony—marking the end of one life and the beginning or renewing of another—allows me now, I guess, to call myself a 'born-again Marine.'"



"The role of the IDES Counsel is to guide the service members through the legal aspects of the process, ensure they understand the legal effects of the various decisions they have to make, both short- and long-term, and when needed zealously advocate on their client's behalf."

—Major William Collins Jr., pictured here with Rep. Nancy Pelosi at his recommissioning ceremony.



In uniform again, he is responsible for the policy development and services coordination of the Marine Corps' program to provide legal counsel to Marines and sailors going through the medical board and disability evaluation process. Of serving Marines and sailors in IDES, the program through which he processed only a few years ago, he says, "The fact that I have been assigned to a billet that will allow me to tap into both my personal experience with the IDES process and my time on Capitol Hill to benefit Marines and sailors going through the IDES is incredibly exciting."

This, he says, "is an incredible opportunity that gives new meaning and purpose to the last four years of my life. I am involved in policy, I am involved in advocacy and hopefully what I bring to this position will translate into helping ensure those who are wounded, are injured, or fall ill while serving their country have adequate counsel and advocacy when they are least able to look after their own legal rights."

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The views presented in this interview are those of Major Collins and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Defense, the Department of Navy, or the U.S. Marine Corps.

\* For the full text of Major Collins' remarks, please visit [law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012](http://law.widener.edu/AlumniExtraFall2012)

# Events



Harrisburg valedictorian  
Marisa Zizzi



Widener University President  
James T. Harris III and Law  
Dean Linda L. Ammons  
applaud the graduates.



Harrisburg graduates Angela Rose  
Sperrazza, left, and Megan Eileen  
Henry sing the national anthem.

Harrisburg graduate Aleyshia Flood



The 435 new graduates receiving law degrees in May 2012 collectively contributed more than 18,000 hours of *pro bono* service during their time at Widener Law. They were exhorted to allow their instinct for service to continue guiding them.

"Never forget that we pledge, as a nation, liberty and justice for all," U.S. Sen. Christopher Coons told Delaware campus graduates. "You have an opportunity. You have the skills to add to justice around the world."

William N. Nettles '92, U.S. attorney for the district of South Carolina, told Harrisburg campus graduates, "If your clients know you care about them, you will be a successful lawyer, and if you get a reputation that you do it with civility and dignity, then you will also earn the respect of the bar."



Harrisburg graduate  
Chelsey Crocker is  
congratulated by  
her mother Colleen  
Crocker '94.

# Harrisburg



Harrisburg graduates  
Jaren Nalewak, left,  
and Adam Rarich.



Harrisburg commencement speaker  
William N. Nettles '92.

# May 2012 Commencement



Delaware commencement speaker U.S. Sen. Chris Coons.



Delaware valedictorian Melanie Crawford



Delaware graduate Jonathan Pfoutz.



Delaware graduates from the master of jurisprudence program prepare to process into commencement.



Delaware graduate Tara Miller gets her diploma from her father, Widener Law Overseer George Miller '81.

# Wilmington



Professor Larry D. Barnett leads the procession of Delaware graduates.

Delaware graduate Kelly M. Allegretti.





## Scholarship, Service Drive Ambitious Campus Events Schedule

Both law campuses present numerous scholarly and professional development opportunities throughout the year. Topics range broadly: food and drug law, the death penalty, and takings among many others. Many are open to the public. We encourage you to join us.



### Corporate Law Symposium Tackles Fiduciary Duties in Bankruptcy

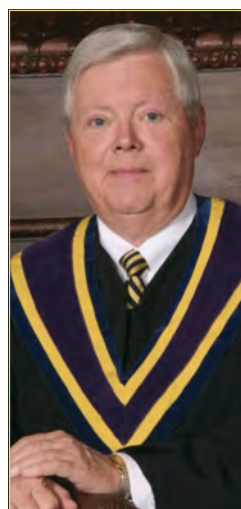
Delaware Supreme Court Justice Jack B. Jacobs (third from right) speaks during a panel discussion at the April program, “Fiduciary Duties at the Intersection of Federal Bankruptcy and State Corporate Law.” Jacobs was joined on the Delaware campus by seven judges representing the Delaware Supreme and Superior Courts, the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, and the state’s renowned Delaware Court of Chancery—all moderated by Widener Ruby R. Vale Professor of Corporate and Business Law Lawrence A. Hamermesh.



### Widener Law Teams with DuPont to offer IP Symposium

The “Introduction to Intellectual Property Law” symposium on the Delaware campus brought together legal professionals, small business owners, entrepreneurs, artists, and inventors for an overview of how Intellectual Property Law can help protect, commercialize, and fund ideas.

From left: Chyrrea Sebree, corporate counsel at DuPont; John Calvert, Senior Advisor in the Office of Innovation Development at the United States Patent & Trademark Office; Angela Grayson, senior counsel at DuPont; P. Michael Walker, vice president, assistant general counsel, and chief intellectual property counsel for DuPont; and Widener Law Associate Professor Sonia Baldia.



### Justice Saylor Gives Annual Jurist in Residence Lecture

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Thomas G. Saylor, Widener’s Law & Government Institute Distinguished Jurist in Residence, gave the annual Jurist in Residence Lecture, “Fourth Amendment Departures and Sustainability in State Constitutionalism” on the Harrisburg campus. Saylor teaches a seminar on constitutional law through the institute and serves as a Widener Law Overseer.



### Dean’s Diversity Forum Features Pennsylvania’s First Asian-American Woman Judge

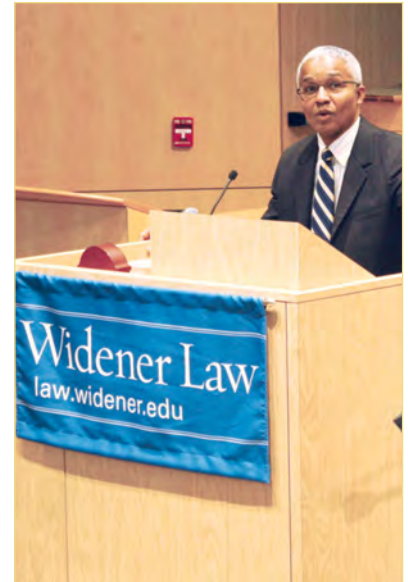
Common Pleas Court Judge Ida Chen, the first Asian-American woman to serve as a judge in Pennsylvania, spoke at the 2012 Dean’s Leadership Forum on Diversity in Harrisburg. The forum addressed access to justice and the demography of central Pennsylvania. She was joined by a range of experts, including Janis Leftridge, the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s diversity officer, who moderated the day’s first panel.

## Congratulating Scott Cooper '93



Scott Cooper with daughters Leah and Sami, and wife Barbara Cooper.

The Harrisburg campus celebrated the success of Scott Cooper '93, president of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice. Cooper, his wife, and their children joined students, faculty, and staff at a reception in his honor and screening of the documentary *Hot Coffee*. Cooper expressed gratitude for his Widener Law education: "The thing I like about what we do: We really believe in it. It's not just a job," he said. The event was sponsored by Cooper's firm—Schmidt Kramer—and the Student Bar Association.



## Hon. Nathaniel C. Nichols Receives Martin Luther King Semester of Service Award

Former associate professor and now Common Pleas Court Judge Nathaniel C. "Nick" Nichols received the law school's 2012 Martin Luther King Service Award. The law school presents the award annually to a member of the community who has lived Dr. King's dream and who has manifested in their life's work those commitments to community service and social justice that the law school seeks in its Semester of Service project. The program also featured remarks by Peter Harvey, Esq., former New Jersey attorney general.

Hon. Nathaniel C. Nichols delivers his acceptance speech.



## Susan Herman of ACLU National Speaks on Campus

Susan Herman, president of the ACLU national board of directors, visited the Harrisburg campus, speaking to students and the public and lunching with faculty, during a two-day stop in central Pennsylvania sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Harrisburg. Herman teaches at Brooklyn Law School. Her most recent book is *The War on Terror and the Erosion of American Democracy*.

Susan Herman and Harrisburg Dean of Students Keith Sealing.



## African-American Alumni Honored at BLSA Trailblazers Event

The Delaware campus Black Law Students Association honored nine distinguished African-American alumni at its second annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet. The association honorees, recognized for their achievements in the private sector or public interest sector, or for their community service contributions, represented each decade since the law school's founding.

Student Lauren Hughes (left) and honoree Romona Fullman '84.



## Federalist Society Debates Affordable Care Act

The Harrisburg campus Federalist Society hosted the Cato Institute's Ilya Shapiro for a debate about the Affordable Care Act with Associate Professor Michael R. Dimino, Sr.

Members of the Federalist Society with Associate Professor Michael R. Dimino, Sr. (right).



## Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition

The Moot Court Honor Society hosted the 24th annual Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition, the only one of its kind in the United States. Prominent merger and acquisition attorney Richard E. Climan gave the competition's Distinguished Scholar Lecture.

From left: Vice Dean J. Patrick Kelly, Richard E. Climan, and Ruby R. Vale Professor of Business and Corporate Law Lawrence Hamermesh.

## Selected 2012 Campus Events

2012 Regulatory Compliance Program  
 ACLU Symposium: "Issues of Race and Innocence in Capital Punishment"  
 Annual John Gedid Lecture  
 Annual Jurist in Residence Lecture:  
 Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Thomas Saylor  
 BLSA "Trailblazers and Pioneers"  
 BLSA Trayvon Martin Panel Discussion on Prosecutorial Discretion  
 Dean's Leadership Forum on Diversity  
 Delaware Supreme Court Oral Arguments  
 Delaware Wills for Heroes  
 DuPont-Widener Law Symposium:  
 Introduction to Intellectual Property Law  
 E. John Wherry Jr. Portrait Unveiling  
 E. John Wherry, Jr. Distinguished Lecture in Trial Advocacy and Professionalism  
 Environmental Law Distinguished Speaker Series  
 FDA Matters Symposium  
 Federalist Society Debate: Affordable Care Act

Guest Speaker: Susan Herman,  
 President of the ACLU National Board  
 Harrisburg Wills for Heroes  
 Hot Coffee Documentary Screening  
 Institute of Delaware Corporate and Business Law Symposium:  
 "Fiduciary Duties at the Intersection of Federal Bankruptcy and State Corporate Law."  
 Intellectual Property Society: "A View from the Bench"  
 Martin Luther King Semester of Service Program  
 Preservation Law Workshop  
 Public Interest Resource Center Annual Reception  
 Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition  
 Sports and Entertainment Law Association Symposium  
 Student Animal League Defense Fund speaker on Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act  
 Widener Journal of Law, Economics & Race Symposium:  
 "The School-to-Prison Pipeline"  
 Widener Law Women's Leadership Dinner  
 Featuring Lynne Abraham  
 Women's Law Caucus Panel Discussion: Alternative Careers  
 Women's Law Caucus Symposium: "Roe v. Wade at 39"





### Delaware students win BLSA regional competition

Members of the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association won the mid-Atlantic regional round of the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition in Philadelphia. They prevailed in all five rounds of the competition, defeating teams from Drexel University Earle Mack School of Law, West Virginia University College of Law, the University of Richmond School of Law, University of Virginia School of Law, and Washington and Lee University School of Law.

From left: Jahlee Hatchett, Jennifer Friend-Kelly, Kenny Williams, and Roderick Thompson.



### Delaware Student Kevin Krauss Receives Eisendrath Award

Kevin Krauss was named the inaugural recipient of the Eisendrath Award, honoring Project for Nuclear Awareness Chairman and Cofounder Craig Eisendrath, a former U.S. Foreign Service Officer who dedicated his work to a nuclear weapons-free world. Krauss received the honor at a dinner program at the WHYY Hamilton Public Commons on Independence Mall in Philadelphia. The award was presented by the Project for Nuclear Awareness with co-sponsorship from WHYY Studios. It honored Krauss for exhibiting a commitment to achieving a peaceful world, free from the threat of nuclear weapons through international peace and human rights initiatives.



### JURIST Academy

Both campuses of the law school hosted summer JURIST Academy programs for undergraduates considering law school. Students in both programs traveled to courts and law firms, where they met and spoke at length with attorneys, judges, and other legal professionals. Destinations included the Dauphin County Courthouse and Rhoads & Sinon in Harrisburg as well as the Delaware County, Pennsylvania, courthouse and Richards Layton & Finger in Wilmington. Students participated in LSAT prep courses and mini-classes on criminal law and torts, and had conversations with successful minority attorneys, law students, and alumni on academic success strategies, the law school admissions process, and more.

2012 Delaware JURIST Academy participants.



The 2012 JURIST Academy class from the Harrisburg campus poses with Widener Law alumnus Vincent L. Champion '01, at far right, and Annie Etter, marketing coordinator at Rhoads & Sinon, which hosted the students on a firm field trip.



### Student Awards

In awards ceremonies on each campus, President James T. Harris III presented the President's Award to Delaware campus student Brian S. Eng of Wilmington, Delaware, and to Harrisburg campus student Rachel Hadrick of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. The award recognizes second-year students who have demonstrated scholastic achievement and who possess strong potential for meaningful contributions to the law school, the community, and the profession.

Dean Linda L. Ammons presented the Dean's Award to Delaware campus student Eric J. Juray of Maple Shade, New Jersey, and to Marisa Zizzi of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The Dean's Award recognizes graduating students who, in the dean's opinion, have demonstrated outstanding legal aptitude, exemplary service, significant leadership skills, and the potential to become an outstanding member of the legal community.

From left: Widener University President James T. Harris III, Harrisburg President's Award recipient Rachel Hadrick, Harrisburg Dean's Award recipient Marisa Zizzi, and Law Dean Linda L. Ammons.

From left: Widener University President James T. Harris III, Delaware President's Award recipient Brian S. Eng, Delaware Dean's Award recipient Eric J. Juray, and Law Dean Linda L. Ammons.



### Harrisburg Students Win Best Brief at Rendigs National Products Liability Competition

Harrisburg campus students Tricia Lontz and Ryan Molitoris won the award for the best petitioner's brief and advanced to the semifinal round. One of the "final four" among 22 teams from around the country at the 25th annual August A. Rendigs National Products Liability Moot Court Competition, they lost only to the competition's ultimate winner.

### Regional Alumni Gatherings

Every year, Widener Law alumni gather for regional chapter events throughout the mid-Atlantic and sometimes beyond. We hope to see you at the next one in your area.



### Delaware County Alumni Chapter Luncheon and CLE Program

Delaware County Alumni gathered for “When the Media Comes Knocking on Your Client’s Door,” a CLE program presented by a panel of speakers including Legal Intelligencer Editor-in-Chief Hank Grezlak, *Legal Intelligencer* reporter Zack Needles, Deputy Chief Counsel to the Pennsylvania State Treasury Department Jack Stollsteimer, and Delaware County Alumni Chapter Chairman Jonathan Peri '99, who served as moderator. Pictured from left are Jack Stollsteimer, Esq., Jon Peri, Esq. '99, Hank Grezlak, and Zack Needles.

### New Jersey Alumni in Atlantic City and Mt. Laurel

Alumni gathered at the Borgata in Atlantic City in conjunction with the annual meeting of the New Jersey State Bar Association. They joined Dean Linda Ammons in congratulating Kevin McCann '75, the first Widener Law graduate elected president of the New Jersey State Bar Association. New Jersey alumni also gathered in Mt. Laurel to congratulate newly admitted members of the New Jersey Bar and to meet accepted applicants and first-year law students.



Kristina Miller '09 in Atlantic City.



### Reading Alumni Reception

Reading, Pennsylvania—area alumni gathered to meet with Dean Linda Ammons and hear news about progress at their law school. Fred Mogel '80 hosted the event at the Berks County Bar Association.



### New York City Alumni Reception

Harrisburg campus graduates Daniel Fix '09, Olga Kondrashova '07, Jonathan Kipnis '07, and Vanessa McEvoy '07 at the New York City alumni reception.



### Wilmington Happy Hour

Brandon Accardi (2L), Hon. Calvin Scott '89, Shauna Hagan '04, and Robert O'Donnell '92 at FireStone in Wilmington, where area alumni gathered to network and relax.



## 2012 an Active Year for Widener Women

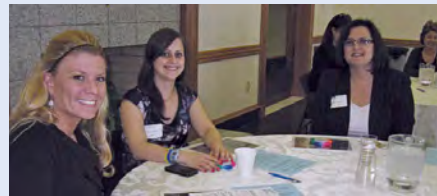
Nearly 100 alumnae, staff, faculty, student leaders, and friends welcomed former Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham to the Delaware campus as the speaker for the inaugural Widener Law Women's Leadership Dinner. It was one of several Widener Women's gatherings throughout the mid-Atlantic this year. On the Harrisburg campus, the Widener Women's Network "Tea & CLE" event brought alumnae together for Professor Jennifer Lear's CLE program, "Made ya Look: Using detail to persuade." The event benefited the Pamela K. Karpouzis Memorial Scholarship. In an event sponsored by Miriam Barish '92 at the offices of her law firm Anapol Schwartz, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Widener Women's Network welcomed Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Judge Carolyn T. Carluccio '85 as its guest speaker. Judge Carluccio's topic: "Judicial Insight into Effective Trial Advocacy for Women."



Miriam Barish '92 and Hon. Carolyn Carluccio '85.



Former Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham (left) with Dean Linda L. Ammons.



### York Alumni Gathering

Widener Law hosted a happy hour with the help of alumni Timothy Norton II '09 and Amanda Snoke Dubbs '05 on June 14 at Maewyn's Irish Pub in York, Pennsylvania.

Pictured, from left, are Class Agent Nekeshia Maloney-Jones '10, Prof. James Diehm, Lishani Sunday, and David Sunday '07.

### Northeastern Pennsylvania Alumni Reception

Vice Dean Robyn Meadows and Professor Michael Cozzillio joined northeastern Pennsylvania-area alumni for a reception in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Alumni gathered at Trax Bar & Grille to network and enjoy the company of Vice Dean Meadows and Professor Cozzillio.



### Pennsylvania Bar Association Annual Meeting

Alumni converged on Lancaster for the Pennsylvania Bar Association's annual meeting and the law school's concurrent networking reception. Pictured: Melissa Leininger '05 and Class Agent Paul Edger '11.



### Students Say Thank You

Students on both campuses expressed their gratitude for the many opportunities provided by Widener Law supporters during "Thanksgiving Day for Donors." To all our contributors: thank you for your generosity!



### Harrisburg Alumni and Students Celebrate Successes

Cory Iannacone '05 of Rhoads & Simon LLP and Widener Law Overseer Douglas Wolfberg '96 of Page, Wolfberg & Wirth, LLC, joined faculty and administrators on the Harrisburg campus to celebrate 1L student achievements at the Scholars Reception. The two alumni congratulated students and shared their own stories of success at Widener Law and beyond.



### Sixth Annual Central Pennsylvania Alumni & Friends Golf Outing

Eric Delp '05 lines up a shot while teammates Greg Mills '03 and Jeff Watson '03 look on during putting contest. The outing, held at Manada Golf Club in Grantville, benefited the Widener Law Scholarship Fund.

Pictured below: Christian Davis '92 awards the trophy; James "Jeff" Watson '03, Matthew Monaghan '05, Gregory Mills '03, and Nathan Giunta '03.





### Widener Law Alumni Sworn in to U.S. Supreme Court Bar

Twenty-nine Widener Law Alumni traveled to Washington, D.C., to take an oath before the United States Supreme Court, joining its bar. At the reception following the swearing-in, Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg made personal visits to congratulate the bar's newest members. The group lunched at The Madison Hotel, where National Advisory Council member Kenneth Lopez '95, CEO of A2L Consulting, was the featured speaker.

Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. poses with the Supreme Court Bar's newest members from Widener Law.



### Class of 2012 Record-Breaking Class Gift

Please join us in thanking the Harrisburg class of 2012 and congratulating the members of the 3L Class Gift committee. The group of volunteers raised a record-breaking amount for their class gift and used their funds to buy an engraved stone, now installed on the Harrisburg Campus Legacy Pathway garden. Delaware graduates generously purchased a new Widener Law sign in the Ruby R. Vale Moot Courtroom and made a donation to the Scholarship Fund.



### Dean Ammons Visits Alumni at Pennsylvania Judicial Center

On a recent trip to the Pennsylvania Judicial Center, Dean Ammons lunched with student externs and alumni serving the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania, Prothonotary's Office and the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania. The group was treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the facility, where a significant number of Widener Law graduates are employed.

Pictured: Alex Rosenbaum '12 and Elizabeth Flaherty '07 at the Pennsylvania Judicial Center.

## ATTENTION ALUMNI

We invite you to write to the Office of Development & Alumni Relations with news of interest. Please feel free to include a photograph as well (digital 300 dpi or hard copy). We look forward to hearing from you.

Send your Class Note to:  
Office of Development & Alumni Relations  
Attn: Class Notes  
Widener University School of Law  
P.O. Box 7474  
Wilmington, DE 19803-0474  
Or email us at  
[law\\_alumni@mail.widener.edu](mailto:law_alumni@mail.widener.edu)

1975



**SCOTT C. BOROWSKY** is celebrating the 35th anniversary of his company

Kane Communications, as well as the 50th, 40th, and 30th anniversaries of a number of its trade and professional publications. Since its founding, Kane Communications has focused on acquiring and resuscitating troubled publications for a variety of industries.

**KEVIN P. MCCANN** has assumed the presidency of the New Jersey State Bar Association for a one-year term.

**WILLIAM M. SLOANE** has been ennobled as the Count of Shoa by The Crown Council of Ethiopia, chaired by HH Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, grandson of HIM Emperor Haile Selassie I.

1976

**HON. JAMES DELEON** of the Philadelphia Municipal Court was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual “Trailblazers and Pioneers” banquet.

**JOHN M. FARENISH** joined Venable LLP’s Washington, D.C., office as a partner in the firm’s government contracts group.

1978

**HOWARD BROWN**, attorney at Howard H. Brown & Associates in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual “Trailblazers and Pioneers” banquet.

1979

**KAREN L. SEMMELMAN** of Hoffmeyer & Semmelman LLP has been named a 2012 top attorney by *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* magazine.

1980

**TODD M. BERK** was elected to the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association’s Board of Directors.

**BERNARD W. SMALLEY** spoke at the Dispute Resolution Institute’s Personal Injury Potpourri annual seminar at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia.

1981

**TIMOTHY J. DONOVAN** argued a case before the Delaware Supreme Court during its spring oral arguments held on the Delaware campus. Mr. Donovan represented the state in *Leonard M. Taylor v. State of Delaware*.



**KENNETH M. ROTHWEILER** of Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg, & Jeck, P.C., has been named a 2012 top attorney by *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* magazine.

1982

**KEVIN F. BRADY** joined Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott in its Wilmington, Delaware, office as a member. In his new position, Mr. Brady practices in corporate litigation, e-discovery issues, environmental insurance coverage litigation, and director and officer insurance coverage litigation.

**ROBERT T. SZOSTAK** has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* magazine.



1983  
1961

**ROBERT R. LONG** has been promoted to vice president and house counsel at Donegal Insurance Group in Marietta, Pennsylvania.

**JOSEPH J. MCGRORY**

spoke at the Montgomery County Township (Pennsylvania) Manager's Consortium on "Billboards and Electronic Signage."

**HON. JOSEPH W. OXLEY** has been nominated by Governor Chris Christie to the New Jersey Superior Court bench.

**CHRISTOPHER B. WOLFE** of the University of Delaware faculty was listed in Princeton Review's 2012 book *Best 300 Professors*, which profiles teachers in 60 fields based on surveys by Princeton Review and ratings on [ratemyprofessors.com](http://ratemyprofessors.com).

1984  
1961

**JAMES R. BURDETT**, a partner in Barnes & Thornburg LLP's Washington, D.C., office and a member of the firm's Intellectual Property Department, was named a Washington, D.C., Super Lawyer.

**ROMONA FULLMAN**, director of the Office of the Delaware Commission for Women and of Delaware's Division of Human Relations, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

**HON. JOHN D. KESSLER** was elected Magisterial District Judge for Abington, Pennsylvania.

1985  
1961

**JOHN D. BALAGUER** argued a case before the Delaware Supreme Court during its spring oral arguments held on the Delaware campus. Mr. Balaguer represented the defendants in *Christian v. Counseling Resource Associates*.

1986  
1961

**KIM HOLLAENDER** has joined Langsam Stevens and Silver. The firm has been renamed Langsam Stevens Silver & Hollaender LLP.

**HON. GEORGE OVERTON**

of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

**WILLIAM C. REILEY** has been named first assistant district attorney in the Schuylkill County (Pennsylvania) District Attorney's Office.

1987  
1961

**GARY B. EIDELMAN**, partner and vice chair of the business and finance practice of Saul Ewing, was elected to the firm's executive committee.

1988  
1961

**SAMUEL GUY**, attorney, civic activist, and former Wilmington, Delaware, City Council member, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

**ROBERT E. MATTA** has been named assistant district attorney in the Schuylkill County (Pennsylvania) District Attorney's Office.

**DEREK R. LAYSER** was a guest speaker at the National Business Institute's CLE seminar "Personal Injury Boot Camp: Medicare Set-Asides and Settlement Tactics."

1989  
1961

**ANN M. BADMUS** recently received the *Dallas Business Journal's* 2012 Women in Business Award. The award recognizes the top 25 Women Business Owners and Executives in the North Texas area.

**TIMOTHY R. LAWN** was elected an officer of the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association.

1990  
1961

**RONALD A. BROWN**, of Prickett, Jones & Elliot in Wilmington, Delaware, represented Southern Copper in a shareholder dispute with Grupo Mexico, resulting in a Chancery Court judgment of \$2 billion and generating the largest attorneys' fees in a case of this kind.

**DOMENICK C. DICICCO** was appointed Head of North American Insurance at Xchanging. In this new role, Mr. DiCicco will be responsible for ensuring relationships with existing customers and expanding Xchanging's U.S. insurance business.

**KEVIN W. GOLDSTEIN** was elected to the board of directors of the Main Line Chamber Foundation for a three-year term.





**MARY ANN P. PLANKINTON**, a partner of MacElree Harvey in the firm's Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, and Centreville, Delaware, offices, has been elected to the Board of the Centreville Delaware Civic Association. She will serve as Secretary.

**WALTER H. SWAYZE III** has been named a 2012 Pennsylvania Super Lawyer.

**RICHARD R. WHITE** was appointed by New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to lead the new Tenant Protection Unit at New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), the state's housing agency.

**MARTIN G. BELISARIO** has been reelected to the Justinian Society's board of governors.

**THOMAS A. BOULDEN** has been named a partner at Timoney Knox LLP in Fort Washington, Pennsylvania.

**MICHAEL BROWN**, Washington, D.C., councilman and partner with The Madison Group in Washington, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

**STEVEN E. HOFFMAN** served as faculty for a Lorman Education Services seminar, "Employment Law Update," in Bethlehem and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**JOHN C. PISA-RELLI** has joined Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP's International Trade and Investment and Aerospace & Defense practices in Washington, D.C.

**FELICIA Z. SMITH**, Chief Human Resources Officer of Fox Rothschild LLP, served as a speaker on the "Self-Funded Plans: Optimize Your Company's Strategy" panel held at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**MIRIAM BARISH** was elected to the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association's Board of Directors.

**JOSEPH CAGNOLI** was promoted to equity shareholder at Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney.

**RISA VETRI FERMAN**, Montgomery County (Pennsylvania) District Attorney, hosted an Emerging Leadership Summit for select high school students at Montgomery County Community College.

**SHARON L. FREEMAN** has become a partner at Nusbaum, Stein, Goldstein, Bronstein & Kron, P.A. She practices workers' compensation law.

**REGINA FOLEY TATLONGHARI** was elected to the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association's Board of Directors for a three-year term. She also recently served as a panelist on "Declining Part-Time Work Arrangements and the Impact on the Retention and Success of Women Attorneys" for the Philadelphia Bar Association's Women in the Profession Committee.

**GLEN D. GILMORE** was recently ranked seventh in *Forbes'* "Who Are The Top 50 Social Media Power Influencers?"

**EILEEN A. GRENA-PIRETTI** has been named to the board of the Delaware Academy of Medicine, which honored her at its 2012 annual meeting.

**JOSEPH J. MCHALE** spoke on "Update on Pharmacy Law" at the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center's eighth annual Pharmacy Focus Forum in Harrisburg.



**LISA A. SHEARMAN** has joined the Lansdale, Pennsylvania-based law firm Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin PC. Ms. Shearman will be a member of the firm's Estates & Trusts Department.

**SCOTT B. COOPER** spoke at the Dispute Resolution Institute's Personal Injury Potpourri annual seminar at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia. He is President of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice.

**KELLY A. ERHARDT-WOJIE** has become a partner at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer in its Woodbridge, New Jersey, office. Ms. Erhardt-Wojie practices in the areas of real estate and banking.

**THERESE M. FINAN** has joined Venable LLP's Washington, D.C., office. She will practice patent and trademark law.

**JAY M. LEVIN** has joined Eckell Sparks in Pennsylvania. Mr. Levin will focus his practice in the areas of businesses and commercial representation and general litigation, real estate, general counsel services, and family law.



**CAPT. RICHARD L. MORRIS JR.** recently began running catamaran sailing trips to the U.S. Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands aboard *Cricket VI*.



**FRANCES R. ROGGENBAUM** has become a partner at Saul Ewing LLP in the firm's Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, office. Ms. Roggenbaum practices in the areas of business, finance, and insurance.

**THOMAS M. SCUDERI** has become a partner at Connell Foley LLP. Mr. Scuderi practices in the areas of secured transactions, corporate law, and real estate law.

**TODD J. SHILL** is a producer of cinematographer Daniel Sariano's feature-length film project *Kings Bench*.

**SARAH C. YERGER** has been selected to receive the YWCA Tribute to Women of Excellence 2012 Award.

**1994** **MAJOR WILLIAM J. COLLINS** was recognized by House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi as he was recommissioned to the United States Marine Corps. Major Collins, who served in the office of then-Speaker Pelosi from 2009 to 2011, has been assigned to the Judge Advocate Division at Headquarters Marine Corps, where he will be the Marine Corps IDES (Integrated Disability Evaluation System) Counsel Program Director.

**JOEL M. EADS** has become a partner at Trenk, DiPasquale, Webster, Della Fera & Sodono, P.C., in its Ardmore, Pennsylvania, office. Mr. Eads practices in the areas of commercial litigation and insurance coverage/bad faith litigation.

**WILLIAM W. KEFFER** has been named a partner in the Business Department of Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**MICHAEL W. WINFIELD** joined the Widener Law Harrisburg campus faculty as an adjunct. He teaches Mediation.

**1995**

**JAMES L. ANNAS** has been named the Broken Arrow (Oklahoma) Fire Department's Assistant Fire Chief.

**DENA B. CALO** has become a partner at Genova, Burns & Giantomasi. She is Director of the firm's Human Resources Practice Group and is based in the firm's Newark and Camden, New Jersey, offices



**REX A. DONNELLY**, Managing Shareholder of RatnerPrestia's Wilmington, Delaware, office, presented "Intellectual Property: What it is and How to Protect It!" at the Philly Ad Club Workshop.

**CHRISTOPHER P. GERBER** was a featured presenter at the Chester County Association of Township Officials seminar, "Hot Topics in Municipal Employment Law."

**JULIA SWAIN** of Fox Rothschild LLP's Family Law Practice presented to attorneys interested in handling custody cases with Philadelphia VIP, a nonprofit that provides *pro bono* legal services to low-income Philadelphians, at the firm's Philadelphia office.

**GREGORY S. CHELAP**, a partner



in the Harrisburg law firm Skar-

latosZonarich LLC, has been awarded a Certificate in Private Capital Markets by the Graziadio School of Business and Management at Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

**KIMBERLY A. GANDY JINKS** announced the opening of her own firm, The Jinks Law Firm, LLC, in Princeton, New Jersey. She concentrates her practice on Family Law Litigation, Mediation, and Collaborative Divorces.

**HON. J. CHRISTOPHER GIBSON** has been appointed a New Jersey State Superior Court judge by Governor Christie and the New Jersey State Senate Judiciary Committee.

**DAMIAN JACKSON** of Reilly, Janiczek & McDevitt, P.C., in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

**MALINDA A. MILLER** has become a partner at LeClairRyan in its Newark, New Jersey, office. She will practice Medical Malpractice Law.

**JEFFREY C. VENZIE** was elected to the board of directors of the Construction Financial Management Association, Philadelphia chapter.

**GREGORY W. WERKHEISER**, a member of Morris Nichols' business reorganization and restructuring group in Wilmington, has been named to the advisory board of Widener Law's Institute of Delaware Corporate and Business law.

**JOHN P. ZEIGLER** was elected partner at Swartz Campbell, LLC.

1997



**PATRICIA J. BAXTER**, an associate at Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney,

recently received the Philadelphia VIP's 2011 Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Award on behalf of the firm, which received the award in recognition of its *pro bono* services.

**ALBERT M. GRETO** argued a case before the Delaware Supreme Court during its spring oral arguments on the Delaware campus. Mr. Greto represented the plaintiffs in *Christian v. Counseling Resource Associates*.

**DAVID L. REBUCK** was sworn in as the Director of the Division of Gaming Enforcement, the casino regulatory agency within the Department of Law and Public Safety of the State of New Jersey.



**ROBERT S. STICKLEY** joined Langsam Stevens Silver & Hollaender LLP as a partner. Mr. Stickley practices in product liability, construction defect

litigation, and auto and trucking industry matters.

**JUSTIN B. WINEBURGH**, head of Cozen O'Connor's Media, Entertainment and Sports Law Practice, was a featured speaker at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's CLE, "Keeping it Real: The Legalities of Reality Television." He also addressed the Philly Ad Club as part of a panel on the "Power of Celebrity in Advertising" and spoke at a Pennsylvania Bar Institute CLE seminar, "Entertainment Law in the 21st Century: Effective representation in an ever-changing industry."

1998



**MATTHEW F. FOX** of Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford, P.C., presented

a seminar to the Lansdale Limb Loss Support Group. He also served as a speaker to the Independent Adults with Neuromuscular Disease Group in Lansdale, Pennsylvania.

**VICKI MARKOVITZ** of the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office Insurance Fraud Unit received the office's 2012 Fraud Fighter Award.

**JASON METTLEY** has joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as an associate. Mr. Mettley represents employee benefit plans in all matters.

1999

**JOANN GIANGIULIO** has been appointed to the board of directors of the Lehigh University Alumni Association.



**MARK R. OWENS** is included in this year's Indiana Super Lawyers listing.

**JONATHAN E. PERI**, Neumann University's Vice President and General Counsel, was recently elected chairman of The Walden School's Board of Trustees.

2000

**WILLIAM P. DOYLE**, chief of staff at the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA), has been nominated by President Obama to be a commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission.

**J. WESLEY KOCSIS** of the Kocsis Law



Office in Athens, Pennsylvania, was recently selected by the National Trial Lawyers Association as one of its Top 40 Under 40 for 2012.

**NICHOLAS T. MENAS** has become a partner with Fox Rothschild in its Atlantic City, New Jersey, office. He practices in the areas of real estate, zoning, and land use.

**PATRICK G. ROCK** has been elected director at the Wilmington, Delaware-based insurance defense law firm Heckler & Frabizzio, PA.

2001



**JOSHUA T. KLEIN** has been named in the rankings of the

2012 Chambers USA Guide, "Leaders in Law."

**PATRICK M. MCKENNA** was elected to the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of Greater West Chester, Pennsylvania.

**MICHAEL J. NEEDLEMAN** recently presented an online continuing legal education class for Lawline.com entitled "Duty to Defend in New Jersey and Pennsylvania." The course was for insurance professionals and attorneys who represent insurance companies. It analyzed the states' differing standards and their interplay and examined how to handle procedural hurdles in each state.



**HEATHER A. TERESHKO** has joined Christie, Pabarue, Mortensen & Young as a shareholder. Her practice focuses on the defense of health systems, hospitals, physicians, and other healthcare providers who have been sued for medical negligence.

## 2002

**SEN. RICHARD L. ALLOWAY** is running for reelection in Pennsylvania's 33rd Senatorial District.

**KRISTA E. BUTLER** has joined Reger Rizzo & Darnall LLP's Wilmington, Delaware, office as an associate in the Employment Practices and Litigation groups.

**BRIAN L. COLBORN** has been named of counsel at the international law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP. He practices in the firm's Wilmington, Delaware, office.

**KRISTEN M. DANIELS** has been elected 2012 treasurer of the Delaware County Bar Association.

**SCOTT W. REID** was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet. The honor recognizes Widener Law graduates for their successes in the private and public services sectors, as well as their dedication to community service.

**BRANDON D. RICHARDS** recently was elected a member at Eckert Seamans Cherin and Mellott, LLC. Mr. Richards practices in the firm's Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, office.

**ANDREA C. RODGERS** argued a case before the Delaware Supreme Court during its spring oral arguments held on the Delaware campus. Ms. Rodgers represented the defendants in *Christian v. Counseling Resource Associates*.

**KARA C. WHITE** has joined Burns White's Health Care and Long-Term Care Practice Group. She practices in the firm's Philadelphia office.

## 2003

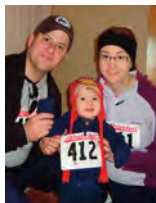
**JOSEPH B. CICERO** has been named a shareholder at the international law firm Greenberg Traurig, LLP. He practices in the firm's Wilmington, Delaware, office.

**JARED B. SHAFER** has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**CHRISTY L. WILLIAMSON** joined Rawle & Henderson LLP's Philadelphia office as an associate. She will practice in the area of casualty and premises liability.

## 2005

**CHRISTOPHER J. CABOTT** assembled and moderated a panel featuring Howie Roseman, GM of the Philadelphia Eagles, and Andrew Brandt of ESPN at the recent Widener Entertainment and Sports Symposium CLE.



**AMANDA L. SNOKE DUBBS** has started her own law firm, where she practices labor/employment law and estate planning and administration. She and her husband Matthew have a son, Samuel Robert, who will celebrate his second birthday in November.

**MONTE SQUIRE**, attorney in the intellectual property and commercial litigation practice section at Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, in Wilmington, Delaware, was honored by the Delaware campus Black Law Students Association at its annual "Trailblazers and Pioneers" banquet.

## 2006

**JASON A. LAMBRINO** has joined the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole's Office of General Counsel.

**ERIC S. LAMPREY** has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**EVAN Y. LIU** has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**KATHLEEN W. MCNICHOLAS** has been elected president of Delaware Academy of Medicine, which honored her at its 2012 annual meeting. She is the organization's first woman president.

**MARCUS E. MONTEJO** of Prickett, Jones & Elliot in Wilmington, Delaware, represented Southern Copper in a shareholder dispute with Grupo Mexico, resulting in a Chancery Court judgment of \$2 billion and generating the largest attorneys' fees in a case of this kind.

**JUSTIN S. MORICONI** has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**KELI M. NEARY** has accepted a position as Deputy Attorney General at the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General in the Litigation Section of the Civil Law Division, Harrisburg office.

**GUSTINE J. PELAGATTI** joined Blank Rome LLP as an associate in the firm's Philadelphia office. Mr. Pelagatti will practice in commercial litigation matters.

**CIRO C. POPPITI**, the New Castle County Register of Wills, spoke at the 33rd Annual Law Day Breakfast at Salesianum School.

**ARVID E. VON TAUBE** joined the Boston, Massachusetts–based law firm Masterman Culbert & Tully LLP as an associate. Mr. Taube will practice in the areas of corporate and business matters, with a specialty in issues facing start-ups and emerging companies in the Boston area.

2007



**CARROLL B. CORRELL** of Winchester, Virginia, was elected chairman of the Winchester Republican Committee and appointed to the Planning Commission for the City of Winchester.

**ELIZABETH A. FLAHERTY** became Associate Counsel to the Judicial Conduct Board of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg.

**ARON F. GOLD** has been appointed to the 167th A-100 Foreign Service Officer class with the Department of State. His first diplomatic duties will be as a consular officer serving Americans abroad.

**MARIA E. HARRIS**, an associate at Martin Banks, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Friends of Farmworkers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the living and working conditions of indigent farmworkers, mushroom workers, food processing workers, and workers from immigrant and migrant communities.

**CHRISTOPHER F. SCHELLHORN** served as second chair for the prosecution in the State of New Jersey v. Dharun Ravi (a.k.a. the "Rutgers Webcam Spying Trial").

**ADAM D. WOLPER** has joined the law firm Herrick, Feinstein LLP's Newark, New Jersey, office as an associate in the firm's Restructuring and Bankruptcy Group.

2008

**KEVIN G. COLLINS** has joined Barnes & Thornburg LLP's Wilmington, Delaware, office as an associate in the firm's Finance, Insolvency, and Restructuring Department.

**CHRISTINA M. FISHER** was interviewed recently for *The Pennsylvania Bar News*. Ms. Fisher is the Central Pennsylvania regional manager and Dauphin County coordinator for the PBA Young Lawyers Division—supported "Wills for Heroes" programs. Last year she coordinated events in Dauphin, Cumberland, Adams, Berks, and Lebanon counties and was honored by Pennsylvania Wills for Heroes in July. Ms. Fisher was also named a 2012 Pennsylvania Rising Star.

**KEVIN E. HARCHAR** received the 2011 Exemplary Service Award from the Lackawanna Bar Association. Mr. Harchar was honored for his involvement with "Wills for Heroes," a nonprofit organization that provides first responders with important legal documents at no charge.

**MATTHEW R. KRUPP** started a community service project called "Lighten Up Harrisburg." The project started as an effort to relight the Walnut Street Bridge and since has grown into bringing light into communities through replacing burnt-out bulbs, repairing and replacing damaged and missing light posts, and assisting the City of Harrisburg with identifying future lighting needs.



**KRISTIN A. MOLAVOQUE**

of the Chester County, Pennsylvania, law firm MacElree Harvey, has been named to the Pennsylvania Rising

Stars list as one of the top up-and-coming attorneys in the state for 2012 by *Super Lawyers*.

**JOSHUA B. SCHWARTZ** of Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg, & Jeck, P.C., has been named a Pennsylvania Rising Star by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*.

2009

**DANIEL J. DEVLIN**

has joined Margle Law Offices, P.C., in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as an associate.

**ERIN K. GRADY** has become the newest member of the Central Dauphin School Board in Pennsylvania.

**JASON G. GOTTESMAN** of Pennsylvania Legislative Services appeared on PCN's *The Pennsylvania Legislative Service Rundown*.

**JARRETT VINE** has joined Polsinelli Shughart as an associate in the firm's Wilmington office. He will practice in the firm's Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring group.



# Class Notes

February–June, 2012

## IN MEMORIAM

- SCOTT R. JAY '80
- JOHN R. CHRISTIE '84
- MARION K. RECHSTEINER '88
- STEPHEN B. CHASKO '90
- WILLIAM V. PETERS '91
- DAVID M. MCCANNEY '93
- WAYNE A. SOUSA '95



**ELIZABETH A. STEFANSKI** joined Burns White LLC as an associate in the firm's Health Care and Long-Term Care Group, Philadelphia office.

# 2010

**MATTHEW T. EYET** of Hass & Hecht, LLP, spoke at a two-hour webcast entitled "Reporting of Foreign Assets: Navigating the Latest Information Reporting LIVE Webcast."



**ERIN A. PADOVANI** joined Burns White LLC's Philadelphia office as an associate in the firm's Workers' Compensation Group.

**ANDREW R. SILVERMAN** married Carolyn Bridget Enyart at St. Monica's Church in Berwyn, Pennsylvania.

# 2011

**MICHAEL A. CIPRIANO** has joined Eckell Sparks as an associate. Mr. Cipriano's practice focuses on personal injury, employment law, family law, and commercial litigation.

**ELIZABETH A. MERCOGLIANO** was elected School Board Director for the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

**LAURA E. NOWICKI** has joined Laffey, Bucci & Kent, LLP, as an associate.



Santino Ceccotti '06 received the Delaware Bar Association's Profile in Courage Award at the association's Law Day lunch.

The Delaware campus chapter of Phi Alpha Delta awarded Alumni Association President Renae Axelrod '91 its Excellence in Law Award. Pictured from left, students Brendan Brett and Brandon Accardi, Alumni Association President Renae Axelrod '91, and student Clint Orem



Valerie A. Davis '11, a lecturer in law at Martin Luther University in Halle (Saale), Germany, met up with Professor Jill Family in London for a brief reunion.

Diana C. (Esposito) Kelleher '09 recently married Sean Kelleher, the Head Men's & Women's Tennis Coach at Franklin and Marshall College. Ms. Kelleher is currently clerking for the Honorable Dennis E. Reinaker in the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas.



Doug Wolfberg '96 met up with Pat McPherson '94 on a recent trip to Hawaii.





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**Online Widener Law Magazine:** [law.widener.edu/alumniextrafall2012](http://law.widener.edu/alumniextrafall2012)



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Peter J. Castagna  
Assistant Director, Widener Law Fund  
302-477-2754  
[pjcastagna@widener.edu](mailto:pjcastagna@widener.edu)

Ashley N. Barton  
Associate Director,  
Office of Development & Alumni Relations  
717-541-3974  
[anbarton@widener.edu](mailto:anbarton@widener.edu)

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