



Justinian Society Newsletter

Fall 2015

734 N. Wells, Chicago, IL 60654 ■ Phone 708.338.0760 ■ Fax 708.401.0360 ■ www.justinians.org

President's Message

By: Jessica DePinto

"Home is a concept, not a place; it is a state of mind where self-definition starts; . . . [it] is where one first learned to be separate and it remains in the mind as the place where reunion, if it ever were to occur, would happen."

-A. Bartlett Giamatti, *President, National League of Professional Baseball Clubs (1986 – 1989)*

A. Bartlett (Bart) Giamatti delivered this quote in a lecture presented on American Institutions at the School of Law at the University of Michigan in 1989. Bart Giamatti, a recipient of the Justinian Society of Award of Excellence during Richard Caldarazzo's term, described "home" in his essay/lecture on baseball – but the quote aptly describes our professional home, the Justinian Society of Lawyers.

Many members have described the Society as their professional family. The words "home" and "family" are interchangeable in our Italian-American lexicon. If home is a state of mind where self-definition starts, then our professional identities were largely formed around the dinner table of our monthly meetings. The Society provided the leadership and professional development opportunities that allowed us to confidently assume our role as advocates, counselors, strategists and educators in our chosen practice areas.

Like any venerable institution, we are vulnerable to the ambiguities birthed by change: technological advances in the profession, the business of the profession and the exhilarating pace of twenty-first century life. However, I am confident that through the wisdom of our senior members, the leadership of our current officers, and the enthusiasm of our junior members, our Society will not only endure, but thrive. On a personal

note, I thank Anthony Fornelli, Leonard Amari, Judge Gloria Coco, Richard Caifano, Judge Lisa Marino, Joe Bisceglia, Leonard DeFranco, Joe Gagliardo, Rich Pellegrino, Jim Morici, Cristina Mungai, Katherine Amari, Antonio Romanucci, and Sam Tornatore for their candor and wisdom in guiding my tenure as an officer. Special thanks to Nina Vidmer for her continued service to our organization. I am energized by the enthusiasm of our junior members, Gabe Caporale, Anthony Pasquini, Michael Pisano, Nicole Petrarca, Disa DiBuono and law students Karalyn Jevaney, Marie Sarantakis, and Joe Promisco. I am fortunate to serve beside talented and supportive officers: Frank Sommario, Michael Bonamarte, Vincent Vidmer, Natalie Petric and Judge Regina A. Scannicchio.

The theme of my presidency is "Engage, Educate and Enjoy." Thanks to the efforts led by past presidents Anita DeCarlo, Antonio Romanucci, and First Vice President Frank Sommario, we circulated a survey in May to better gauge member demographics and interests and identify steps to increase engagement as our current officers will work toward a strategic plan in advance of the Society's 100th anniversary in 2021. In years past, our dinner meetings provided an opportunity to learn about developments in the profession and tools to enhance our role as leaders in the communities we serve. We will re-introduce that practice during our monthly meetings in November and April. We are also in the process of updating our Society's web-site to render it more interactive, including a past-president's and members' forum. Members will also be able to proactively update their contact and professional information in real-time.

Finally, during this term, I wish us all the pleasure of relaxing in the company of old friends and welcoming new ones to our table.

JUSTINIAN OFFICERS

Jessica DePinto
President
Frank A. Sommario
1st Vice President
Michael F. Bonamarte
2nd Vice President
Vincent R. Vidmer
3rd Vice President
Natalie Petric
Treasurer
Honorable Regina Scannicchio
Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Honorable Luciano Panici
Honorable Diana Marsalek
Honorable Lisa Marino
Vincent Petrosino
Nicole Centracchio
Michael Pisano
Antonio Romanucci
Gregg Garofalo
Anita DeCarlo

Honorable Gloria Coco
President's Advisory Council
Joseph Promisco
Student Member

Please notify Nina Albano Vidmer of any address changes by contacting her at: P.O. Box 3217; Oak Brook, IL 60522; justinians@navandassoc.com.

Editor:

LEONARD F. AMARI

Associate Editor:

KATHERINE A. AMARI O'DELL

Staff:

RICHARD B. CAIFANO
ANGELINA FILIPPO
THOMAS LEVERSO
VINCENT OPPEDISANO
ANTHONY PASQUINI
FRANK A. PERRICONE
NICOLE PETRARCA
MICHAEL PISANO

Executive Administrator:

NINA ALBANO VIDMER

Copy Editor:
DIANA BOSNJAK

CONTRIBUTORS: SEE PAGE 36

Justinian Society of Lawyers



Jessica DePinto, President

Jessica has more than 15 years' experience in federal regulatory compliance and business law. She has guided Fortune 500 companies in their global trade regulatory compliance objectives. While a manager in Deloitte Tax LLP Customs and Global Trade practice group, she conducted in-depth assessments of clients' policies and procedures. With a deep technical knowledge of global trade regulations, Jessica has been responsible for designing and delivering best practices compliance training programs for clients in diverse and highly regulated sectors, including textiles, wearing apparel and footwear. She edited and managed Deloitte Tax Customs and Global Trade eminence publication, *The Link Between Transfer Pricing & Customs Valuation*, one of the most authoritative guides of its kind, compiling essential information regarding import valuation and implications of related party pricing in over 50 countries.

While in private practice, she successfully advocated clients' positions before federal regulatory agencies and represented clients in penalty actions before U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security. She served as chair of practice committees for the Chicago and Illinois State Bar Associations and has published on issues pertaining to import regulations.

With a keen interest in education, Jessica has designed and delivered continuing legal education courses for the Chicago Bar Association and the International Trade Club of Chicago. Aware of the challenges facing the 21st century lawyer, she is collaborating with IIT Chicago-Kent's Institute for Law and the Humanities to develop and deliver courses on mindfulness and resilience.

Continued on page 7



Frank A. Sommario, 1st VP

Frank is a Partner at Romanucci & Blandin, LLC in Chicago, where he practices as a petitioner's workers' compensation lawyer. He has obtained several large settlements and favorable trial awards for his clients over the years.

Frank was admitted to the Bar in Illinois (2000), Minnesota (2001), and District of Columbia (2001). He received his Juris Doctorate from DePaul University College of Law in 2000. He is a Certified Public Accountant (1998), who received his Bachelor's degree in Commerce/Accounting from DePaul University in 1997. He became a Registered Investment Advisor in 2003.

In addition to practicing law, Frank is active in several professional organizations. He served two three-year terms on the Board of Governors of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA). He is a Silver Fellow of the Illinois Bar Foundation. Frank is a past President of the Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association (WCLA). He is also a member of the national and state trial lawyers' associations, as well as of the alumni associations of DePaul University, DePaul University College of Law, and Fenwick High School.

Frank was named an Illinois' Rising Star by Super Lawyers® for the years 2010-2015 and, in 2012, Frank was named one of 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch by Law Bulletin Publishing Company.

Born in Melrose Park, Illinois, Frank was raised by his parents, Frank and Mary Jo. Frank currently resides in Elmhurst with his wife, Gina, and children, Angelina, Isabella, Sophia, and Frank Jr.



Michael F. Bonamarte IV, 2nd VP

Michael F. Bonamarte, IV joined Levin & Perconti as a trial attorney in August, 2005. He is now a Partner with the firm. Michael worked as a law clerk with the firm during his second and third years in law school. He concentrates his practice on representing injured victims and their families in cases of nursing home abuse and neglect, medical malpractice, automobile accidents, construction accidents, premises liability, slip & fall accidents, and other serious personal injury and wrongful death cases. He works passionately and diligently to advocate for individuals and their families who have been the victims of wrongful conduct.

Michael earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison graduating with academic distinction. He earned his Juris Doctorate from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago where he graduated at the top of his class and earned a place on the Dean's List during his second and third years. He received highest scholastic honors in trial advocacy and advanced trial advocacy.

Michael has authored several publications and given several professional presentations to a wide range of groups including the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, American Association for Justice, the Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education, and the National Association of Elder Law Attorneys. He speaks regularly on the topic of nursing home litigation.

Michael is an active member of the Chicago Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, American Association for Justice, and Justinian Society of Lawyers.

2015-2016 Officers



Vincent R. Vidmer, 3rd VP

Vincent R. Vidmer practices in Chicago, handling various legal matters, including general civil litigation, real estate transactions, estate planning and general legal drafting. Additionally, a major component to Vincent's practice resides with the Liquor and Allied Worker's Union, assisting in collective bargaining, fringe benefits, pension and 401(K) plan administration, grievances and arbitrations, and general administration.

Vincent has been recognized multiple times by Illinois Superlawyers as a "Rising Star." Vincent is an active member of the Illinois State Bar Association and a member of various civic organizations, including the West Loop Community Organization.

He attended Fenwick High School, Loyola University and The John Marshall Law School. While attending law school, Vincent was named to the Dean's List, studied Roman Law at the Vatican, earned the privilege and opportunity to be selected as one of two students to study International law at Prague, Czech Republic, and was the recipient of numerous scholarships. While in Prague, Vincent worked at an international law firm; conducting legal research to assist in the legal rights of former property owners who were stripped of their land by the government during the communist era.

Vincent is a Chicagoland native who resides in Chicago's West Loop. He currently resides in the Fulton River District of Chicago with his lovely wife, Lauren.



Natalie M. Petric, Treasurer

Natalie M. Petric serves as Manager, Enforcement Counsel in the Legal and Market Regulation Department of CME Group. She is responsible for litigating cases involving market participants before the exchange's disciplinary committees. Prior to joining CME Group, Natalie worked as a civil defense trial attorney and prosecutor in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. Natalie graduated cum laude from Tufts University with a bachelor's degree in international relations. She received her Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law. She is married, has two young daughters, and is the proud granddaughter of past Justinian President Anthony J. Fornelli.

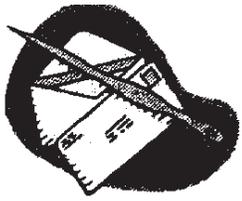


Hon. Regina Scannichio, Secretary

Regina A. Scannichio a Cook County Circuit Court Judge sits in the Domestic Relations Division presiding over cases involving dissolution of marriages, child custody and support, financial distribution and orders of protection. Regina is a graduate of The John Marshall Law School and DePaul University.

Prior to taking the bench, Regina was the principal in a private practice that concentrated in the area of family law. During her private practice, Regina was appointed as a child representative or guardian ad litem for children in numerous contested custody proceedings. Regina served as the president of The John Marshall Alumni Association in 2013-14 and is currently the chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii. She is an adjunct professor at The John Marshall Law School teaching legal writing and family law drafting.

Regina is a frequent speaker and presenter on issues of family law for continuing legal education directed for the bar and bench. Regina received the Distinguished Service Award from The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association, the Spirit of John Marshall Award from the Board of Trustees and the DaVinci Award for Community Service from the Order Sons of Italy.



Letters to the Editor

By: Katherine A. Amari O'Dell



Dear Leonard,

Thank you for the mentions, the photos, and the plug for my new firm. You are a prince!

- Sam F. Cannizzaro

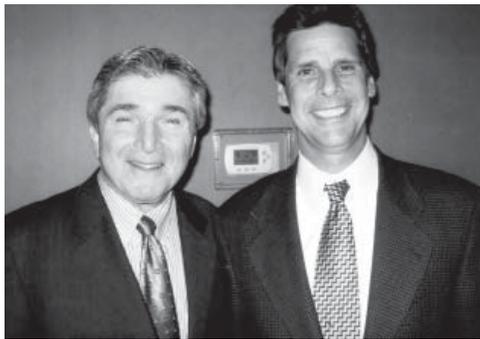


Antonio Romanucci & Sam Cannizzaro (right)

Dear Katherine,

Wow! The newsletter has more information than our daily papers. Congrats on another great issue!

- Joe Gagliardo



Joe Gagliardo & Steve Phillips (right)

Dear Leonard,

I recently resolved a case involving a 32 year old father of a one year old boy who entered the emergency room with complaints of severe back pain and profound weakness in his legs. There was a ten day delay in surgery from the time he arrived in the emergency room and the time a diagnosis was made and surgery was performed. The man ended up paraplegic from his stomach down. This case settled for \$10,000,000.

The defense originally told me the case was worth only \$2 million and only because he was a paraplegic. I said not when you're Sicilian!

- Stephen D. Phillips

Katherine - Very nice!

- Sam Tornatore



Sam Tornatore, left, and Vince Vidmer

Dear Katherine and Leonard,

I really appreciate all that you and the JMLS mentors do for the Justinian Society mentoring program! I don't think I would be entering my third year in the fall without it. See you soon!

- Karalyn Jevaney

Dear Katherine,

Thank you for sending me a copy of the Justinian Society's recent newsletter. I enjoyed seeing the pictures and accomplishments of so many good people. Give my best to the boss!

- Father Michael Caruso, S.J.
St. Ignatius College Prep



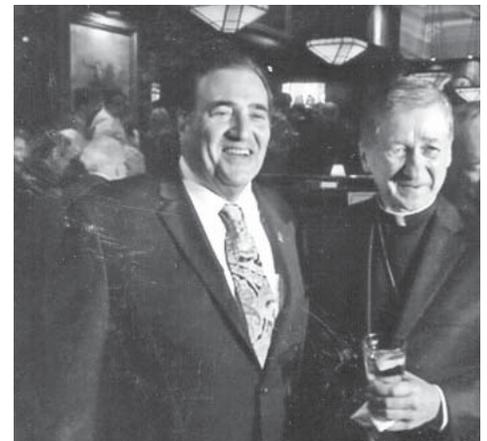
Father Caruso, right, with Mike Favia and Tony Fornelli (center)

Dear Katherine,

You were so thoughtful to write on June 4, 2015, to send me a copy of the spring edition 2015 of the Justinian Society of Italian Lawyers Newsletter.

Thank you as well for highlighting the reference to me on page 29. This letter gives me the opportunity to thank you for the important work of the Justinian Society.

- Most Reverend Blasé J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago



Archbishop Cupich (right) and Fred Serpe

Katherine,

Thank you for your kind words and sending me the Justinian Newsletter, much appreciated.

You and your father should open up a PR firm; I am confident you would be successful in any endeavor.

- Daniel Corrado
Chairman, Casa Italia

Leonard,

Thank you for acknowledging the passing of my father in the Justinian Newsletter. He carried the lira you gave him in his pocket for the last fifteen years.

- Scott Guetzow

Justinian News

Award of Excellence

The Reverend Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., was the 23rd President of Loyola University Chicago from June 2001 until June 2015. In July 2015, he transitioned into his new role at Loyola as Chancellor. A seasoned university administrator, tenured professor, author and scholar, Father Garanzini has spent the majority of his career working in higher education.



In June 2011, Father Garanzini was appointed by Adolfo Nicolás, S.J., the superior general of the Society of Jesus, to serve as the Secretary for Higher Education for the Society of Jesus. In this new role, which officially began on September 1, 2011, and is in addition to his continued service as president and CEO of Loyola, Father Garanzini assists the Father General on a part-time basis, coordinating and championing Jesuit higher-education issues around the world.

Father Garanzini's solid academic credentials combine with a rare blend of experience in teaching, research, service and administrative leadership at some of the nation's leading Jesuit institutions of higher learning, including Georgetown, Fordham, Saint Louis and Rockhurst universities, as well as Gregorian University in Rome.

Prior to becoming President of Loyola, Father Garanzini was a full professor of psychology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he had been special assistant to the president for two years. Before joining Georgetown, Father Garanzini was a visiting professor at Fordham University in New York.

Outstanding Leadership Award

Lisa Emerson is the retired Vice President of Global Total Compensation at McDonald's Corporation and a recognized leader in the field of compensation and benefits. Recognized for her strong leadership, business acumen and expertise in the field of human resources, Lisa is renowned for her innovative approach to creating programs that link business strategy, culture and rewards.



As Vice President of Global Total Compensation, Lisa was responsible for all aspects of McDonald's global compensation and benefits strategy and execution, redesigning the program to align with the company's global business strategy. This included executive and broad-based compensation, expatriate policy and administration, stock plan policy and administration, health and welfare plans, and retirement benefits. Lisa's exceptional performance record reflects a responsible approach to risk taking, a deep commitment to people and values, and the keen ability to lead complex, corporate-wide change.

Lisa was a member of McDonald's global human resources leadership team and served as an executive sponsor on McDonald's Woman's Leadership Network, OakBrook chapter. Lisa is also a member of the board of directors of Hephzibah Children's Association, an award-winning Oak Park social service agency that offers child welfare and family services, foster care and adoption programs, and short- and long-term group homes for children traumatized by neglect and abuse.

May Report Swearing In of Officers

By: Colleen Redden

The Justinian Society returned to Gibson's Steakhouse in Chicago for this year's Installation Dinner. The newly elected officers took their oaths on Wednesday, May 13th. The sentiment of "family" was present throughout the entire evening from the family style dining to the prestigious awards presented.



Year 2014 marked another successful year for the Justinian Society behind the leadership of outgoing President Anita DeCarlo, the Officers, and the Executive Committee. Continuing that success into 2015 includes: President, Jessica DePinto, 1st Vice President, Frank Sommario, 2nd Vice President, Michael Bonamarte, 3rd Vice President, Vincent Vidmer, Treasurer, Natalie Petric, and Secretary, Hon. Regina Scannicchio.



President DePinto's addressed the audience with gratitude to those who served the Justinian Society before her. She also continued the familial energy in the room when she remarked that the Justinian Society had been a home for her. President DePinto has chosen "Engage, Educate, and Enjoy" as the theme of her presidency. President DePinto wants to use the wisdom of senior leaders coupled with techniques to engage younger members of the Justinian Society in order to increase the quality of membership.

Out-going President DeCarlo also handed out several awards. Joann Fratianni, Chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, was awarded the Helen Cirese

Continued on page 6

Award. Sam Cannizzaro was awarded the Gerald Sbarbaro Mentoring Award. Erica Crohn Minchella was awarded the Kathryn Barasa Rinella Award for achievement in the advancement of women in the law. Lastly, a new award was created for student members of the Justinian Society, the Anthony J. Fornelli Emerging Leaders Award. Marie Sarantakis of The John Marshall Law School was awarded this inaugural scholarship.

Also in attendance were several past presidents of the Justinian Society including: Mauro Glorioso, Richard Caldarazzo, Anthony Fornelli, Leonard DeFranco, Michael Favia, Leonard Amari, John Locallo, Richard Caifano, Salvatore Tornatore, Umberto S. Davi. We were also honored to have numerous members and officers from the Illinois Bar Association in attendance, including immediate Past President, Richard Felice, incoming 2nd Vice President, Hon. Russell Hartigan, and 3rd Vice President, James McCluskey.

The event was filled with many laughs, cheers and applause for the incoming officers, and the success of the previous board. The entire evening was capped off by delicious desserts and a feeling of optimism going unto the upcoming bar year.



From left: Alderman Robert Fioretti, Erica Minchella, Tom Battista, and Michael Favia

Below photo from left: Umberto Davi, Len DeFranco, Richard Pellegrino, Joe Bisceglia, Jessica DePinto, Victor Ciardelli, Richard Caifano, and John Locallo



Joann M. Fratianni receives the Helen M Cirese Outstanding Leadership Award from Frank Sommarino and Anita DeCarlo



Sam Cannizzaro receives the Judge Sbarbaro award from Anita DeCarlo



Jan Davi, Umberto Davi, Marie Sarantakis, Sandra Sarantakis, and Andreas Sarantakis



From left: Umberto Davi, Anita DeCarlo, and Richard Felice

April Report Nomination of Officers

By: Vince Oppedisano

The annual Nomination of Officers Dinner was held on April 23rd at Carmine's on Rush Street. Carmine's hosted the Justinians in one of its upstairs private dining rooms, once again providing a great atmosphere for members to catch up with old friends and establish new relationships with wonderful people.



The cocktail hour was dominated by handshakes, hugs, and great conversation, while Carmine's staff provided top notch service to our Society, as usual. Judges, established lawyers, newly licensed attorneys, law students, and law school hopefuls alike enjoyed the restaurant's outstanding Italian cuisine. It was great to see so many long-time Justinians who have remained active in the organization for years, as well as some of the newer faces. It is important to invite new members or potential members to our meetings, as some of these new faces will be the leaders of the Society in the future. It has been encouraging to see many law students and young lawyers attend their first Justinian meetings over the past year.

Outgoing President Anita DeCarlo recognized a number of distinguished individuals attending the dinner, including past Presidents Leonard Amari, the Honorable Bruno Tassone, Richard Caldarazzo, Joseph Bisceglia, soon-to-be President of the Illinois State Bar Association Umberto Davi, Len DeFranco, John Locallo, Antonio Romanucci, Anthony Fornelli, and Katherine Amari-O'Dell.

Before dinner was served, past President Anthony Fornelli spoke on behalf of the Justinian Society's Nomination of Officers Committee to introduce the 2015-2016 officers. They worked hard to make sure our Society is in the most capable hands moving forward.

Mr. Fornelli announced the nominations as follows: Jessica DePinto for president, Frank A. Sommarino for 1st vice president, Michael Bonamarte for 2nd vice president, Vincent R. Vidmer for 3rd vice president, Natalie Petric for treasurer, and the Honorable Regina Scannicchio for secretary. Congratulations to all of the new officers.

The Justinians truly appreciate the service

of outgoing President Anita DeCarlo for everything she has done for the Society over the past year. Anita's hard work and leadership preserved the Justinian Society's continued reputation as a strong and healthy ethnic bar association that goes out of its way to provide service to the Chicagoland community. We thank Anita for her dedication and look forward to another successful year under Jessica's direction.



Judge Lisa Marino, Frank Sommario, and Erica Minchella



John Perconti, Cindy O'Keefe and Michael Bonamarte (right)



President Jessica DePinto and Anita DeCarlo



Katherine Amari O'Dell, Judge Regina Scannicchio, Anita DeCarlo, Jessica DePinto



Leonard Amari lines up for a photo of Tony Cuda, his son, Anthony; and Joe Bisceglia (right)



Leonard Amari takes a photo of President Jessica DePinto and Secretary Judge Regina Scannicchio



Past Presidents: Len DeFranco, Leonard Amari, Richard Caldarazzo, Judge Lisa Marino, and Joseph Bisceglia



Jessica DePinto, Judge Regina Scannicchio, Anita DeCarlo and Frank Sommario



Umberto Davi, Jessica DePinto, John Lag, Rick Balsamo, and Len DeFranco

DePinto, continued from page 1

She is a proud alumna of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where she graduated with honors. She completed the program in International and Comparative Law from IIT Chicago Kent College of Law. Jessica was awarded a scholarship to complete her Master of Arts in Italian Language and Literature from Indian University – Bloomington and studied at the Università di Bologna.

Honore Nella Legge



How about being the first on your block to receive a Justinian desk flag by writing a check to the Justinian Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$200, or more? With the sad condition of the economy, law students, especially folks from our community, are more in need of scholarship monies than ever. The Justinian Society, in fact, our ethnicity, is known for its generosity and concern for others.

Won't you write your \$200 check today to the Justinian Society Scholarship Fund? Send it to the Newsletter editor at our Justinian Headquarters, 734 N. Wells St., Chicago, IL 60654. You will immediately receive in the mail or by messenger, a mailing tube containing your Justinian desk flag.

Grazie!

Annual Golf Outing

By: Vincent R. Vidmer



The annual Justinian Society Golf Outing, was again held at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. In total over 80 golfers participated in the scramble formatted outing. This year we were lucky enough to enjoy some great weather; which enabled tanning in addition to just a nice round of golf.

The smell of roast pig always draws the return of golfers, that and some cold cocktails. The dinner, as expected was delicious and plentiful. Toward the end of dinner a great raffle with donated prizes was held. The raffle was conducted with efficiency as many attendees were anxious to return home for a Black-hawks win.

A special thanks to the great golf committee which included Sam Tornatore, Richard Caldarazzo, Franco Coladipietro, and Vincent Vidmer, President DePinto. In addition to the golf committee, Nina Vidmer and Grace Vidmer did an outstanding job coordinating on the weeks leading up to the event and on the day of the event. As always, the event's success is in part due to the volunteers, comprised mostly of Law Students.

We also give thanks to all of our generous sponsors who made donations to specific holes and sponsored holes. Similar to years past, all proceeds of the event are being donated toward the Justinian Society Endowment Fund.

Several past presidents were in attendance for golf and/or dinner including Katherine A. Amari, Sam Tornatore, Franco Coladipietro, John Locallo, Joe Locallo, and Antonio Romanucci.

Great job on a fantastic event!



DuPage Update

By: Dion Davi

Past President,
Justinian Society of
Lawyers, DuPage
County Chapter



On May 7, 2015, the DuPage Chapter of the Justinian Society of Lawyers welcomed and installed Elizabeth A. Pope as the 38th president. President Pope held her installation dinner at Gibson's in Oak Brook, which provided a beautiful outdoor cocktail reception for the start of the summer. Other officers installed that evening were 1st Vice President Angela M. Aliota, 2nd Vice President Nicholas R. Galasso, Secretary Lindsay C. Stella, Treasurer Christopher Lunardini, and Immediate Past President Joseph P. Glimco, III. On hand to present the East-West Title President's Gavel to President Pope was Past President Richard Caldarazzo.

During the installation proceedings, the officers presented the Justice Anthony M. Peccarelli Honorary Award to a long overdue recipient. It took many years for the Society to convince Michael J. Scalzo to accept the nomination. Mike is the principal at Scalzo Law Office in Wheaton, where he practices in the area of family law along with his son and DuPage Justinian Past President Todd D. Scalzo. Much like the late Justice Peccarelli, who was the first President of the DuPage Chapter, Mike has been a pillar in the legal community and the public at large.

Not specifically a Justinian event but equally as important, DuPage celebrated the installation of past DuPage Justinian President James J. Laraia as president of the DuPage County Bar Association. Jay's installation was held at the Medina Schriener's in Bloomingdale on June 4. Jay follows in the footsteps of another past Justinian President Lynn Cavallo, who was also sworn in as the DCBA immediate past president. Of note from the event, Joseph M. Laraia, father to Jay, was also installed by the Honorable Stephen J. Culliton due to an alleged oversight to be officially sworn in back in 1979 when Joe assumed his presidency. This was the first time in the DCBA history (and probably any bar association's history) that two presidents of the same organization were sworn in on the same night; let alone the fact that the presidents were father/son and partners at the same firm: Laraia & Laraia, P.C.



2014 Installation Dinner Report

By: Thomas V. Leverso, Esq.

Inspiration: it permeated throughout the reception area of the Palmer House Hilton's Grand Ballroom and energized all who attended the annual Justinian Society of Lawyers' Installation and Awards Dinner on September 10, 2014. Like a swim in a crisp mountain lake, the refreshingly academic and welcoming crowd combined with the appropriately arriving autumnal weather.



My host for the evening was Leonard Amari himself, along with all the partners and associates of Amari & Locallo and it seemed as though the entire evening began right on his cue. I had the good fortune of sitting with giants of the Illinois legal community, including Illinois' Judges Association president, Justice Mary Seminara Schostok, prominent attorney and Deputy Cook County Assessor Thomas J. Jaconetty, the highly respected Judge Clarence Harrison of Madison County, son of the late Justice Moses Harrison, to mention just a few. The room was filled with respected judges and justices of every level, prominent trial lawyers and public interest attorneys. It became clear to me—the annual Installation and Awards Dinner of the Justinian Society of (Italian) Lawyers enjoys the reputation of being the signature social/legal event in Illinois in the Fall.



INFO WANTED

Law School information, articles, gossip and miscellaneous wanted for the newsletter

The newsletter staff is anxious to receive information, articles, comings and goings pieces, photographs, informative articles, photo stories, or whatever, of all the law schools in the State of Illinois. Because of the educational law school background of most of the folks that write for the newsletter, there is a concentration of just one or two law schools. We'd really like to write about all nine law schools in Illinois.

Anyone interested in representing their law school for purposes of publishing items for the newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor, Leonard F. Amari (db@amari-locallo.com).

The cocktail hour began a wave of introductions amongst strangers, while simultaneously old friends resumed from the last time they spoke. This was my first Justinian Installation Dinner and upon entry into the reception area, an immediate embrace of acceptance removed any anticipation usually felt in a new social situation. The young appellate attorney was welcomed as an old friend instead of a newcomer – by everybody I introduced myself to or to whom I was introduced. The words “genuine amity” come to mind.

The crowd of members mingled effortlessly while enjoying hors d'oeuvres that far exceed the expectations of your ordinary cold chicken dinner banquet. Prosciutto with melon, an assortment of cheeses and salamis, and cookies that are some type of cross between anise and angetti line the tables. An ice sculpture adorns the main appetizer table. This food elevated the mood of the room as good food does, but the company of the room made the night special. From great food comes great ideas.

The energy level rose as the room filled, but





the hospitality of the older members increased alongside the genuine respect and affection the attendees demonstrated for each other. The event left an impression I will never forget. The law schools and bar associations were well represented, the Illinois State Bar Association was represented by its officers and many of its governors; The John Marshall Law School ordered two tables to support its graduates, many of which are prominent in the Justinian activities. Renowned jurists from all over Illinois, both Federal and State, took the time to welcome law students, while senior partners and solo practitioners fostered new relations for junior associates. The most common topic was the advancement of the profession, the support and advancement of the younger attorneys, but the experienced generations ensured the young stars shined brightly.

Indeed, pervasive throughout the evening was a universal spirit of treating people the way they ought to be treated regardless of age or experience. This was collegiality – and it was obviously very genuine. This was a true society that had the familial feel to it. I felt myself grinning because every person in attendance shared my love of the law. I was no longer the outcast scholar, a boring trial attorney as to the theoretical application of an obscure doctrine; rather, I was a peer among fellow intellectuals. And my common ethnicity with many in attendance certainly enhanced the great experience.

Likewise, the evening was a welcome change from the normally passé beginning to the Chicago social season because this event was filled with meaning, a very basic concept. What caught my attention were the awards and their respective recipients. To recap they were: Reverend Monsignor Kenneth Velo, recipient of the Justinian Award of Excellence, a beloved cleric in the Chicagoland area, and career friend of the Justinian Society and scores of its members; Michael V. Favia, Recipient of the President's Award, truly a deserving recipient, highly regarded and truly revered; and my host, Leonard F. Amari, recipient of the Honorable Moses W. Harrison Award of Recognition.

Based on the comments of their presenters, Mr. Favia, Monsignor Velo, and my host shined. Monsignor Velo embodies the core values of the underlying mission of the Justinian Society, making the words become more than mere writings. Indeed, I hope someday to have his gumption to pursue social justice.

As for my host, Leonard Amari was being

honored for the very things he showed to me on a personal level and the very things for which Justice Harrison stood: excellence in the profession through its advancement. His genuine respect, affection and devotion to the late Justice was clear, and heartfelt. Mr. Amari's humility was best demonstrated through the brevity of his acceptance; indeed, he quietly accepted his award with due reluctance, showing the true signs of someone devoted simultaneously to the good of the Society and the general public.

The officers were then introduced, and ceremonially sworn, all bright, young leading Italian-American lawyers, led by the wonderful Anita DeCarlo, a second generation president following in the footsteps of her late father, prominent attorney, Vito DeCarlo. The other officers and their offices being: Jessica DePinto, 1st Vice President, Frank A. Sommario, 2nd Vice President, Michael F. Bonamarte, 3rd Vice President, Vincent Vidmer, Treasurer, and Natalie Petric, Secretary.

From here, I returned from a state of extreme focus due to speakers and instead returned to the table's conversation. I realized how this table was not simply composed of esteemed friends, lawyers, and jurists, but rather how all these people charitably contribute to society. Words fail to describe the preciousness of this value and how much the Installation Dinner reinforced its importance.

My thoughts turned to reflection; how Leonard and his A&L colleagues did not have to do a thing for me, and yet there they were opening doors, literally and figuratively. I can only aspire to emulate, as Mr. Amari suggested, the mantra of his reputation, and pay it forward, and indeed I resolve to do such. More than any other room you will visit between now and April, this room – this dinner, that is – actually set the tone for how a person ought to conduct himself or herself.

The dinner is an installment of values – not just the installation of officers.

Editor's Note: Father Michael Caruso, President of St. Ignatius, delivered the most wonderful prayer at the Installation Dinner, insightful, and quoting St. Thomas More, patron saint of lawyers. We reprint it here, in part.

[Lord God, as we ask your blessing upon our fellowship and meal that we will share, let us make these words of St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, our own:

Pray that, for the glory of God and in the pursuit of His justice, I may be trustworthy with confidences, keen in study, accurate in analysis, correct in conclusion, able in argument, loyal to clients, honest with all, courteous to adversaries, ever attentive to conscience. Sit with me in my library and stand always beside me so that today I shall not, to win a point, lose my soul.

Pray that my family may find me what yours found in you: friendship and courage, cheerfulness and charity, diligence in duties, counsel in adversity, patience in pain – their good servant, and God's first.

We ask all these things through Christ our Lord. Amen.]





Anthony J. Fornelli Emerging Leaders Award

By: Leonard F. Amari

President Jessica DePinto gave us an example of what we can expect from her this year of the quality person and visionary that she is immediately upon being sworn in as president of the Justinian Society. Jessica created the Anthony J. Fornelli Emerging Leaders Award and presented it to the first recipient, Marie K. Sarantakis at the May meeting.

In Jessica's own words, "I'd like to start an award to recognize a law student who is an emerging leader. I'd like the first recipient to be Marie K. Sarantakis from JMLS. She's a dynamo! I'd like to name the award to recognize an outstanding Justinian and could think of no one more appreciated or revered than our senior statesman, past president and past recipient of our Award of Excellence, Anthony J. Fornelli. The rationale behind the award: engage the youngsters and give them an incentive to be involved, motivated and ambitious."

President DePinto could not have chosen a more deserving recipient than Marie Sarantakis. As the immediate past president of the Justinian Society student chapter at The John Marshall Law School, she tirelessly worked to bring more students into the Justinian chapter, attracting them with activities, programs, and seminars. We would often get calls during the year from many older and younger Justinians alike, asking for participation in a JMLS forum, symposium, panel discussion, or simply a meet and greet. Enrollment was substan-



tially increased during Marie's year, activities flourished and were abundant, and she surely deserves to be the first recipient of this new and prestigious Justinian award. She has a bright future in the profession, and in our Society.

Presently and for quite some time, she has been a law clerk of Umberto S. Davi, our fearless leader and distinguished past president and current president of the 34,000 member Illinois State Bar Association. She has served as a research assistant at The John Marshall Law School and has had externships with the Honorable Mary Wagner of Kenosha County Circuit Court, the Kenosha County District Attorney's Office, and the Kenosha County Public Defender's Office. She has received substantial distinctions in her young academic career, including being a Herzog Scholar, receiving our Justinian Scholarship, being a dean's scholar, and many others.

Following Marie as president of the Justinian Chapter at JMLS is Karalyn Jevaney, who looks to follow Marie's footsteps and as Jessica would hope. Karalyn is already scheduling programs for the new school year at John Marshall, more on this later.

Congratulations Marie, thank you for your foresightedness Jessica, and Karalyn, please keep the tradition alive and flourishing.



Joining the Justinian Society Student Peer Mentoring Program

By: Marie K. Sarantakis

There are many rewarding facets to being a part of the Justinian family. You will meet lifelong friends, enjoy excellent meals, and be inspired in the company of those who have achieved great success in their careers. There is another benefit that is particularly of interest to those just entering law school and that is the Justinian Society Mentoring Program.

Former Justinian Society President and John Marshall Board of Trustees President, Leonard Amari, recognized the importance of providing guidance to new law students and created the Justinian Society Mentoring Program. Mr. Amari's initiative has profoundly impacted the academic career of numerous students, including my own. His most competent Executive Assistant, Diana Bosnjak, expertly handles all the coordination.

This past summer I served as a mentor in the Summer College to Assess Legal Education Skills (SCALES) program to a student at The John Marshall Law School (JMLS). SCALES was implemented at JMLS to provide immigrants, minorities, and non-traditional students with the opportunity to attend law school, who may have otherwise not have been accepted due to marginal law school indicators. When I attended my first meeting in the conference room in the Law Offices of Amari & Locallo, I thought I was there to pay it forward. However, I ended up finding out that it was just as much a learning experience for myself, as it was for my mentee.

In the process of getting to know and advise my mentee, I found that I relived the journey of starting law school. Sometimes you don't really learn a lesson until you teach it. I was able to impart the trials and tribulations, along with respective lessons, that law school has taught me over the last couple of years. Above all else, our discussions made me feel grateful. I am grateful for the challenges I have encountered. I am grateful for the people I have met along the way. And I am grateful to be a part of the Justinian Society Peer Mentoring Program.

I would like to personally thank Mr. Amari for his vision and leadership. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the Mentorship Program's Co-Chairs, law students Colleen Redden, Mark McQueary, and Tyler Duff, for their hard-work and dedication to the program and students.

If you are a 2L or 3L law student, I en-



Colleen Redden, JMLS '15, receives a gavel from the Justinian Society Mentoring group as a token of her hard work as the group's chair.

courage you to become a part of this phenomenal mission. There are three opportunities to become involved throughout the year: Fall/Spring semesters and also during the Summer SCALES program. You can make a real impact in the lives of those beginning their legal careers. Being a mentor is more than just being an academic advisor, it is being a friend and support system. It is providing inspiration and encouragement. And it is paying homage to the past and future.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee, please contact Diana Bosnjak at db@amari-locallo.com.

JMLS Student Update

By: Karalyn Jevaney

Our John Marshall Law School Justinian Chapter has had an event-filled spring and summer.

We are proud to share some of the accomplishments of our individual members inside and outside of the classroom:

John Chwarzynski, Jr. made the Dean's List and he is currently working as a law clerk at Corboy & Demetrio.

Toni Heniff received the CALI Award for Professional Responsibility, the Scheller scholarship award, and she is the Managing TA for Spanbauer's Contracts I TA program. In the fall, she will begin an externship with the First Defense Legal Aid with her 711 license. She also works at the law firm McCullough, Campbell & Lane.

Karalyn Jevaney is the John Marshall law school liaison to the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism and in the fall, she is volunteering at the Veterans Clinic at John Marshall.

Matthew O'Malley accepted a job with the Illinois Attorney General's office in Springfield, IL as an Assistant Attorney General.

Anthony Pontillo made the Dean's List and he was awarded the 2015 Edith and Philip Baim Scholarship. He is going to be a T.A. for Professor Kordesh's property class in the fall. Good things happen to good people!

Marie Sarantakis began serving as Co-Editor of the Illinois State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Newsletter and Co-Chair of the Womens Bar Association of Illinois Communications and Marketing Committee. She received the William J. Bauer Scholarship from the DuPage County Bar Association. Additionally, Ms. Sarantakis earned distinction amongst fellow Justinians receiving the inaugural Anthony J. Fornelli Emerging Leaders Award at this year's Installation of Officers Dinner at Gibson's.

Awisi Quartey is externing this fall as a judicial clerk for Illinois Supreme Court Justice Mary Jane Theis. She is a part time student at John Marshall and works full time as the Director of Policy and Training for the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, an agency charged with safeguarding the rights of adults with disabilities throughout Illinois. Awisi has been a member of the Justinian Society since August of 2013.

Daria Vasilescu made the Dean's List and she received the Carol Tavis Southern California Alumni Scholarship Award.

JMLS Student Chapter President's Message

By: Karalyn Jevaney

I love people. I have always been the type of person who meets new people wherever I go – the train, the elevator at work, at school, or wherever else I happen to be.

When I was a prospective student visiting John Marshall for the first time, someone suggested that I sit in on a class. I was sitting in a classroom observing the class and I met a girl, Catelyn Anderson, who had the same exact job as me a year before in Springfield. We even sat in the same desk. She said she would talk to me after her class and while



DePaul Student Update

By: **Antonia Kopec**

Joseph Baratta was named to the Spring 2015 dean's list. Mr. Baratta serves as a staff writer for the DePaul Journal of Healthcare Law. This summer, Mr. Baratta worked as a law clerk for the Franklin Law Group.

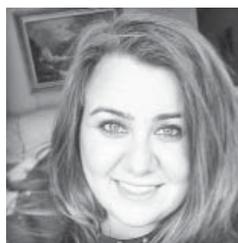


Alessandra Faso was named to the Spring 2015 Dean's List. Ms. Faso also received the CALI Award for the highest grade in Constitutional Law. This summer, Ms. Faso worked as a legal extern for the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She will continue to work there this fall.

Joseph Gregorio was named to the Spring 2015 Dean's List. Also during the Spring 2015 semester, Mr. Gregorio was awarded the CALI Award for the highest grade in Health Policy & the Law. Mr. Gregorio serves as an associate editor for the DePaul Law Review, Jaharis Health Law Institute's E-Pulse Blog, and is a Co-Director of Recruitment and Outreach on the Jaharis Health Law Institute's student advisory board. This summer Mr. Gregorio worked part-time at the Goldberg Law Group and Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie, & Lowry.

Antonia Kopec was named to the Spring 2015 Dean's list. Ms. Kopec serves as the business manager and associate editor of the DePaul Law Review. This summer she completed an internship with the United States Army JAG Corps at the XVIII Airborne Corps Office of the Staff Judge Advocate in Fort Bragg, NC. Ms. Kopec will finish the summer and begin the fall as a law clerk at the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in the Felony Trial Division.

Adriana Preston, student chapter president (right), worked at the Cuda Law Offices this summer. She will start an internship with the Internal Revenue Service this September during her final year of law school.



New Chapter at DePaul

By: **Antonia Kopec**

DePaul University is proud to announce the re-installation of the Justinian Society Student Chapter at the College of Law. This year, Ms. Adriana Preston has the pleasure of serving as President for the DePaul Student Chapter. Last summer, Adriana worked for Justinian member Anthony Cuda, who she says she is "forever grateful to for introducing me to the Justinian Society." Mr. Cuda invited Adriana to attend the Annual Justinian Installation Dinner. For Adriana, the experience "solidified what a great community the Justinians are, and I wanted to be apart of that." As Adrianna grew up in an Italian family, it was reassuring for her to find a legal community that shared similar morals and values.

At that time DePaul did not have a student chapter. Fortunately, the Justinian Society allowed Adriana the opportunity to connect with many of its members, including past President Anita DeCarlo. "I am thankful to call her my mentor and friend," says Adriana. Ms. DeCarlo encouraged Adriana to reopen the DePaul University Student chapter, and it worked! Adriana spent much of the first semester searching for the correct contacts to reopen an organization on campus. After receiving approval, the students sought out fellow members, and today are proud to be a blossoming organization in the DePaul Law community. The students spent much of last year gaining their bearings and learning how to maintain an organization on campus. This year, the DePaul Justinian students look forward to expanding and hosting more events throughout the school year. "We thank the parent society for allowing us to be a part of such a wonderful community and for all the opportunities," says Adriana.

In February, the DePaul Student Chapter hosted a panel discussion with past President Anita DeCarlo. Ms. DeCarlo gave the students an introduction into the Justinian Society. She impressed upon the students the importance the Justinian Society serves within the legal community, and the many wonderful networking opportunities that are made available. In March, several student members participated in the Justinian Student social gathering at the Hubbard Street Inn. The DePaul students look forward to participating in the many Justinian Society events to come.

DePaul Student Executive Board:

- President:* Adriana Preston
- Vice President:* Grace Barsanti
- Treasurer:* Sydney Mayer
- Secretary:* Danielle Spires
- Faculty Student Advisor:* Stefania Fusco

we were talking, she asked if I wanted to be a part of this mentoring group. I said yes, not really knowing what that meant. Enter Leonard Amari and his mentoring group. (I am working with my third student mentee now! Woohoo!) I had no idea two years later how much that interaction would change my path at The John Marshall Law School.

I truly value my relationship with others. Therefore, when the opportunity to be president of the Student Chapter at John Marshall became available, I saw it as a chance to build and maintain relationships with students, attorneys and other people in a wonderful organization with a long history, the Justinian Society. Also, I wanted to give back to an organization that has brought me academic mentoring, networking opportunities and friendship. I echo the words of many John Marshall students when I say that I wouldn't have made it through my first year of law school without the support of the Justinian mentoring group. Typically, I found large networking events overwhelming and difficult to get to know people. However, I left my first Justinian dinner and I felt like I was at home.

Thank you for the honor of serving as president and I look forward to a wonderful year!

The 2015-2016 Executive Board of the John Marshall Law School Justinian Society Student Chapter consists of President Karalyn Jevaney, Vice President Daria Vasilescu, Secretary Bobby Greene, Treasurer Joe Sgro, Social Chair Anthony Pontillo and Philanthropy Chair Matthew Custardo.



The John Marshall Law School Mentoring group for the Summer SCALES semester was led by very able and enthusiastic co-chairs Colleen Redden (seated, middle), Tyler Duff (not pictured), and Mark McQueary (standing, 5th from right).

Meatball Madness Overtakes The John Marshall Law School

By: Marie K. Sarantakis

The John Marshall Law School's Justinian Society student chapter hosted their annual Meatball Madness event on April 20, 2015. The event was well attended by law students, faculty, and members of the parent organization. The evening's festivities began with a cooking contest. Law students prepared their secret Italian family meatball recipes and participants with discerning palates ranked their favorites. This year's winner was Daria Vasilescu whose meatballs were rated molto delizioso.

After the contest, students mingled over a dinner featuring an array of pasta dishes, fine wines, and Italian bakery cookies while awaiting the evening's raffle extravaganza. This was all made possible thanks to our generous donors, Leonard Amari of Amari & Locallo, Carmelo Chimera of Chimera's Comics, Christos Taltsidis of Christos Furs, the management of Plymouth Bar & Grill, the Jevaney family, and the Iversen family, all to whom we are extremely grateful.

As the evening came to an end, 2014-2015 JMLS Justinian Society President Marie Sarantakis installed the new 2015-2016 Executive Board as follows: Karalyn Jevaney (President), Daria Vasilescu (Vice President), Bobby Greene (Secretary), Joe Sgro (Treasurer), Anthony Pontillo Jr. (Social Chair), and Matthew Custardo (Philanthropy Chair). Congratulations to our new officers! We wish you the very best and look forward to attending all of your events in the coming year.



Justinian President Jessica DePinto, John Lag, and Marie Sarantakis.



JMLS Justinian Student President Karalyn Jevaney selling raffle tickets.



From L to R: Marie Sarantakis (2014-2015 JMLS Justinian Society President), Karalyn Jevaney (2015-2016 JMLS Justinian Society President), and Daria Vasilescu (2015-2016 JMLS Justinian Society Vice President).



Law student Aaron Brand wins a raffle prize in the Meatball Madness games.



Attorney Stefano Viola judging recipes in the Meatball Madness student cooking competition.



John Marshall Justinian students (from left to right) Kieran Mundt, Marie Sarantakis, Justino Mirabelli, and Alexi Maggio.



Meatball Madness was well-attended by professors, students and Justinian members alike



The Iversen brothers prepare their secret family meatball recipe for the cooking contest.

Locallo Elected Chair of ISBA Mutual

Chicago attorney John G. Locallo, a partner in the real estate tax assessment law firm of Amari & Locallo located here, and past President of the Illinois State Bar Association was installed as the Chair of the Board of Directors for ISBA Mutual Insurance Company at the company's recent board meeting. ISBA Mutual provides malpractice insurance to Illinois attorneys.

As Chair, Locallo said, he will help ensure the organization takes a strategic direction that anticipates and supports the legal profession's changing structure and needs.

"Like many sectors, the legal profession is undergoing a substantial transformation, largely influenced by technological advances that affect every aspect of how lawyers do business," said Locallo. "Our role is to understand these changes and their impact to support the development and use of best practices that insure against professional liability.

"We're also, however, looking at the impact of such forces on how we do business," he added. "The customer experience is paramount in today's environment, and our challenge is to use the tools available to anticipate our lawyers' expectations at every stage of the process."

Locallo served as the 135th ISBA President from 2011-2013. He was first elected to the ISBA's 25-member Board of Governors in May 2004 and re-elected in 2007. He was an elected member of the ISBA Assembly from 1996 until his election to the board. Locallo also is a board member and past chair of the Fellows of the Illinois Bar Foundation, the ISBA's charitable arm.

He's known for his many professional and civic involvements, including his service to the Justinian Society of Lawyers, where he was president in 2001. A member of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Locallo also is active with the Chicago-Kent College of Law-IIT Alumni Board of Directors. He received its Distinguished Service Award in 2002, and was its president in 2007-2008.

Locallo also has been named in Illinois SuperLawyers® for five consecutive years. This nationwide service rates outstanding lawyers who have attained a high levels of peer recognition and professional achievement.

A 1982 graduate of the University of Illinois, Locallo became a Certified Public Accountant the following year. He received his J.D. in 1986 and his LL.M. in Taxation in 1992 from Chicago-Kent College of Law. He is a member of the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity and Bohemian Lawyers Association of Chicago. Locallo resides in Chicago's Bucktown neighborhood.

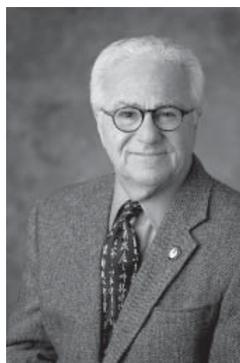


From left, Richard Felice, Jon DeMoss, Leonard Amari, and John Locallo

JMLS Spirit Award

By: Leonard F. Amari

On June 5, dozens and dozens of prominent JMLS alumni, faculty, administrators and friends assembled in the main floor of the beautiful new John Marshall Law School campus to honor folks that epitomize the spirit of this 114 year old Chicago law school.



So honored were beloved retiring Dean Ralph Ruebner, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois Evelyn Sanguinetti, past Chicago Bar Association president Dan Cotter and the highly revered judges Tim Evans and our own Regina Scannicchio.

Leonard F. Amari, president of the JMLS Board of Trustees, presented the awards. The following observations were made by JMLS Trustee Tim Eaton about Judge Evans: "Judge Evans is a distinguished alumnus of our law school, graduating with his JD in 1969. And he received an honorary degree in 2012, following his inspirational commencement address to the graduating class. He joined the board of trustees in 1999 and has served with distinction for the last 16 years. Tim brings vision and wisdom to our board and keeps concern for our students at the top of our priority list. Judge Evans serves as the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, the largest of the 24 judicial circuits in Illinois and also one of the largest unified court systems in the world. More than 1.5 million cases are filed annually in the Circuit Court of Cook County, which serves Cook County's 5.1 million residents. In over ten years as chief judge, Tim has brought sweep-



All Recipients with Dean John Corkery and JMLS Board of Trustees President Leonard Amari. From left, Dean Corkery, Dan Cotter, Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti, Dean Ralph Ruebner, Judge Regina Scannicchio, Chief Judge Tim Evans, and Leonard F. Amari



Justinian President Jessica DePinto, Marie Sarantakis, and past President Len DeFranco



Dean Corkery, Chief Judge Tim Evans, Leonard Amari

ing reforms to the court that are both innovative and compassionate. Under his leadership, there has been unparalleled growth in free legal services for low-income, self-represented litigants, including a free mediation program to help homeowners facing foreclosure. Also, the court's national reputation for its highly effective alternatives to incarceration for young people in trouble continues to grow. Tim Evans has set the gold standard for compassionate, visionary leadership. Tim, as a fellow trustee, it is a personal privilege and pleasure to present you with the 2015 Spirit Award."

Of Regina, Tim Eaton made the following remarks "Regina, your service to John Marshall as the immediate past president of the Alumni Association Board is but one example of your dedication to the people and places

Continued on page 16



Evelyn Sanguinetti



Many Justinians were in attendance at the event. Bottom row, from left: Jan Davi, Judge Celia Gamrath, Judge Regina Scannicchio, Jessica DePinto, Marie Sarantakis. Middle row, from left: John Lag, Leonard F. Amari, and Umberto Davi. Top Row, from left: Mauro Glorioso, Thomas Jaconetty, Joseph Gagliardo, and Giacomo Pecoraro.

closest to your heart. In a graceful and powerful way, you have integrated your work, your passion and your heritage, bringing together the best of the best in your world. Your commitment to your Italian heritage is demonstrated by your active involvement in both the Justinian Society and the Sons of Italy, receiving the prestigious Community Leadership Award at the 2012 Sons of Italy Di Vinci gala. As a proud alumnus of DePaul and active member of the Shine of our Lady of Pompeii, you once again bring your vision and leadership to the table for the benefit of your faith. And at John Marshall, we see your leadership, vision and dedication at work in a variety of ways. You mentor students, making sure that they realize that professionalism is of paramount importance. While leading the Alumni Association, you were not satisfied to lead for just one year, you looked long term and started a strategic plan process. You are an advocate for the school, the alumni and the students. You are a woman of your word and a person of honor. Your dedication to the law is matched only by your dedication to your family, your heritage and your church. Regina, I know the prize you really long for is the opportunity to hold the Stanley Cup. . . .but we hope this will suffice. It is my privilege to present you with the 2015 Spirit Award. Go Hawks!"

JMLS Freedom Awards

By: Katherine O'Dell

Receiving the prestigious Freedom Award were Neli Vazquez Rowland and Brian Rowland, co-founders of A Safe Haven, a network of not-for-profit and for-profit social enterprises that helps people-including youth, women and children, families and veterans-transition from homeless to self-sufficiency with price and purpose. A Safe Haven has 28 locations across the Chicago area offering different types of housing and about 200 employees, 10 percent of whom are veterans.

The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association Board recently honored Hon. Dinah L. Archambeault, George Canellis, Michael P. Cogan, Hon. Thomas Murphy and Professor Mary Nagel of the John Marshall Law School with the Distinguished Service Awards. These awards were created to recognize JMLS graduates for their outstanding achievements in a career field or personal endeavor. These recipients are amazing, hard-working members of the legal field, as well as proponents of the Italian-American community.

The first vice president (at that time) of the John Marshall Alumni Association, and fellow Justinian, Kari Valentino, along with the second vice president and fellow Justinian, Jennifer Irmen, both presented the Freedom Award and Distinguished Service Awards as well as presided at the event with great charm and grace – setting the tone for another annual JMLS Freedom Award luncheon at the Chicago Palmer House, held on May 29.



Brian Rowland, Neli Vazquez Rowland and esteemed guests



Jennifer Irmen, Sherri Dzik, and Kari Valentino

The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association presented the Distinguished Service Award to many of our Justinian John Marshall graduates including (JMLS graduation year in parentheses):

- Katherine Amari O'Dell (2000)
- Leonard F. Amari (1968)
- The Hon. Joseph E. Birkett (1981)
- The Hon. Cheryl D. Cesario (1981)
- Franco A. Coladipietro (1993)
- Umberto S. Davi (1982)
- Anita M. DeCarlo (1998)
- Frank J. Del Barto
- Leonard DeFranco (2014)
- Michael V. Favia (1982)
- Lawrence J. Ferolie (1950)
- Joseph M. Gagliardo (1977)
- The Hon. Celia Gamrath (1994)
- Scott M. Guetzow (1999)
- Michael J. Hennessy (1964)
- The Hon. Thomas E. Hoffman (1971)
- Paula Hudson Holderman (1979)
- MaryAnn Hynes (1971)
- Mia P. Jiganti (1994)
- Joseph F. Locallo, Jr. (1976)
- The Hon. Daniel M. Locallo (1977)
- Joseph R. Marconi (1976)
- Enrico J. Mirabelli (1981)
- Michael J. Polelle (1969)
- The Hon. Nicholas T. Pomaro (1964)
- Anthony C. Raccuglia (1959)
- Antonio M. Romanucci (1985)
- The Hon. Regina A. Scannicchio (1988)
- Ferdinand P. Serpe (1984)
- Brian J. Stephenson
- Salvatore J. Tornatore (1974)
- Nicholas Zagotta (1974)

Other Justinians in attendance were several past presidents, including Michael Favia, 3rd vice president of the board of trustees and Katherine Amari-O'Dell, past president of the JMLS Alumni Association. Other past presidents of the Justinian Society in attendance were John Locallo, Anita DeCarlo and Len DeFranco. Another wonderful and prestigious event of a great Chicago law school.



Lou Siracusano, Brian Rowland, Mike Favia, and Neli Vazquez Rowland

Umberto Davi Installed as ISBA President

Umberto Davi, of Willowbrook, a principal in the Western Springs Law Firm of Umberto S. Davi, P.C., was installed as president of the Illinois State Bar Association at the organization's 139th Annual Meeting Friday, June 19, at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wis.



During his year as president, Davi will concentrate on several initiatives. He will establish a special committee charged with exploring the expansion of the 711 limited law license that would enable qualifying law school students to work more directly with private law firm clients and to be able to appear in court. In addition, he will establish a special task force to address the implications of new client service approaches in certain legal matters, such as the Limited License Legal Technicians program recently enacted in the state of Washington.

A third initiative will focus on providing another practice tool – a library of Illinois-specific, automated legal forms for members of the association. Davi will also continue work to expand the Courtroom in the Classroom program, a joint project with the Illinois Judges Association. He will support the ongoing work of a task force examining necessary changes to what law schools teach students and he will bring substantive and management educational programs to members around the state, through a series of one day Solo and Small Firm Practice Institutes.

Davi, whose law practice concentrates in family law and real estate, was elected to the ISBA Board of Governors in 1998 and re-elected in 2004, 2008 and 2011. Since becoming an ISBA member in 1982, he has served as an elected member of its 203-member Assembly, as secretary and treasurer of the organization and has been active on numerous committees.

A past president of the Cook County Justinian Society of Lawyers and Willowbrook Police Pension Board, Davi is a Willowbrook Village Trustee. He helped establish the Sicilian American Cultural Association and is a lifetime member of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans.

Davi received his law degree from The John Marshall Law School, with Distinction, in 1982. A member of the school's

alumni board, he served as its president in 2005-06 and served as a trustee on the School Board of Directors. He received his undergraduate degree in 1976 from Western Illinois University, in Macomb, where he was a member of the National Honor Society.

The 33,000-member ISBA, with offices in Springfield and Chicago, provides professional services to Illinois lawyers, and education and services to the public through a website (illinoislawyerfinder.com), consumer brochures, and distribution of legal information.



Umberto and his wife, Jan



Umberto discusses his upcoming initiatives during his year at the helm as ISBA President



Justice Thomas Kilbride swears in Umberto Davi as President of the ISBA.



ISBA Past President Rick Felice, Vince Cornelius, Umberto Davi, James McCluskey, Hon. Russell Hartigan, & ISBA Exec. Dir. Robert Craghead



Umberto & Richard Caldarazzo



Umberto & past President Richard Felice



Richard Caifano, Jessica DePinto, Erica Minchella and Michael Favia



Umberto Davi and Family

Right: Umberto with friends Leonard Amari, John Locallo, and Richard Felice; all past Presidents of the ISBA



Ori Installed as New Lake County Bar Association President

A dynamic young professional, Michael Ori, and a 2004 graduate of The John Marshall Law School, assumed the presidency of the highly respected Lake County Bar Association on June 5. Michael is currently the chief of the Traffic and Misdemeanor Division at The Lake County State's Attorney's Office, where he oversees both felony and misdemeanor cases. Michael began his legal career at the Lake County State's Attorney's Office in 2004, and then practiced in the private sector for six years before returning to the State's Attorney's Office in 2013. When Michael Nerheim, current Lake County State's Attorney, called Michael asking him to return to the office as a supervisor and educator to young attorneys in the office, Michael was eager to accept the challenge. Now, as the president of the Lake County Bar Association, Michael is bringing education to the forefront of the Lake County Legal Community by hosting free CLE and diversity events.



Michael is the youngest son of the late Benedict "Ben" Ori, who was also a JMLS graduate (class of 1968). Ben Ori was singularly responsible for creating the first generation of the Justinian Society in Lake County in the early 1970's, which is still active today. Michael has continued his father's legacy by being active in the Lake County Justinian Society. Michael has served as the Lake County Justinian Society vice president and president and is now serving as the chapter's treasurer. John Marshall Law School and The Lake County Justinian Society are not the only things that Michael shares in common with his late father. Michael exhibits all of the talent, charm and wit that Ben Ori was well known for. Ben Ori was highly revered, respected, and loved by his colleagues and clients alike. Now, as Michael assumes his position as the President of the Lake County Bar Association, he displays the same charisma, charm and wisdom as his late father. You will better understand the new Lake County Bar Association president after you read his first President's Message below. Please help us congratulate your fellow Justinian and share in his accomplishment. Read and enjoy!



Chief Lake County Circuit Judge John T. Phillips (left) administers the oath of office to Lake County Bar Foundation board members Joann M. Fratianni, an arbitrator at the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission, secretary, and Carey J. Schiever, a partner at Ralph, Schwab & Schiever Chtd. in Vernon Hills, vice president, at the Lake County Bar Association's installation dinner last month at Viper Alley in Lincolnshire. About 175 LCBA members and guests attended the informal event, billed as "Serious About Having Fun," that featured bowling, dancing and food from around the world.

Michael Ori's 1st President's Message:

I was walking down the street the other day and passed by a home with a sign in the front-yard that read "FOR SALE – TALKING DOG". Intrigued, I approached the older looking dog laying in the yard near the sign and I asked him "can you really talk?" to which he calmly replied "yes, I can". I further inquired, "How is that possible?" to which he replied, "when I was a puppy, the CIA took me from my home and began a series of experimental genetic treatments on me in an effort to turn me into a covert operative. With these treatments, I was able to understand and speak multiple languages. I was then used as a spy by the CIA who would send me in undercover with foreign heads of State as a double agent. No one ever suspected a thing, because, you know, I'm a dog." It was then that the owner of the dog came out of the house and I asked him "why would you sell this amazing dog?". The owner quickly replied, "because he's a liar; none of that happened!"

This story has one purpose – to make you smile, maybe even laugh. I have one purpose in telling you this story – to make you smile, maybe even laugh. Why do I want to make you smile and laugh while you read my first President's page? – to engage you. A wise person once said that "laughter is learning's gateway, as it puts you in the best frame of mind to absorb new ideas". Don't worry; I'm not going to spend the rest of this column trying to educate you. The chances are really good that later on in this issue of The Docket there



Michael J. Ori (right) and his wife, Tara Houseworth Ori, both Lake County assistant state's attorneys, listen to remarks before he is sworn in as the new president of the Lake County Bar Association last month at the LCBA's installation dinner at Viper Alley in Lincolnshire.

is an article that you can learn something from – please, read on. Instead, I want to use this opportunity to share with you my vision of the upcoming year in this great Association.

I am so honored by the trust that has been placed in me by the membership of the Lake County Bar Association in allowing me to serve as its president. I want to honor the Lake County Bar Association and all of its members by serving. I want to continue and expand on concepts began by presidents, officers, board members and members before me. The only way I know how to do that, is to be myself and I like to enjoy life in all its endeavors; through family, work, friends and yes, this Association. Many of you just attended the installation dinner which was held on June 5th at Viper Alley in Lincolnshire. It was a great event and I am so thankful to all of you who made it so special for me. Many commented that the dinner was "different" than dinners before. This idea of different does not mean it was better or worse – just different. I wanted the dinner to be different from dinners before; not because the past was bad, but because the future is certain to bring change and to continue to survive and thrive as this association has done so over the course of 100 years; we must continually adapt.

Somehow, when we become adults, society conveys the idea that everyone is supposed to grow up and become serious; that work and play must somehow become separated. These two ideas aren't exactly at odds. The opposite of play isn't work, its depression. It's my belief that an Association that understands that work and play can, and should, co-exist, will discover one of the best-kept secrets that will make that Association even more dynamic for the membership.

Think about it, when you listen to someone explain something in a voice reminiscent

Continued on page 18



Michael Ori, second from left, with his family and Katherine O'Dell and Leonard Amari

New ISBA Head Rolls Up Sleeves

[Editor's note: This article written by Andrew Maloney is reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin]

After taking the reins of the Illinois State Bar Association earlier this month, Umberto S. Davi took to the poles.

The 65-year-old principal at Umberto S. Davi, P.C. in Western Springs was en route to Kenora, Ontario, for an annual fishing trip hosted by past ISBA president Herbert H. Franks and attended by more than 30 other lawyers, judges and businessmen, he said.

"He's kind enough to invite us. And as long as he invites us, we'll go," Davi said during a phone conversation from his caravan.

Davi, a native of Sicily who immigrated to the United States at age 14, is the ISBA's 139th president. He spoke to the Daily Law Bulletin about his pathway to citizenship, his plans to reduce barriers to new lawyers and why he thought Gov. Bruce Rauner's criticism of the Illinois Supreme Court was "irresponsible."

Law Bulletin: How did you become a lawyer?

Davi: I've always found it a very natural thing to help people resolve their disputes. This goes way back, even to pre-teen years. And part of it had to do with the fact that my degree is from Western Illinois University, and it's in law enforcement administration and psychology. The two fit well together.

I was going to be a clinical psychologist. But I had an uncle who practiced law in DuPage County. He's not a blood uncle but he was a very successful lawyer, and he suggested to me that if I chose to become a lawyer I would never again have a boring minute the rest of my life. And it's held up 110 percent.

LB: The first question state lawmakers often ask when a legal policy goes through committee or comes to a chamber floor is whether the ISBA supports it. As president, do you have any way to influence that? Or is that left up to committees and internal voting?

Davi: Our section councils and committees are the groups of lawyers and judges whose responsibility is to vet out any issue, from whatever area of the law.

As a president, all of us have our own areas of the law. For example, my area is family law, so obviously the new Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act is of very much importance to me, because that's the area where I practice.

Now that's not always the case. A president



Umberto Davi, left, with son Dion



Don Storino, Umberto Davi, Joseph Bisceglia, and Gregg Garofalo]

certainly does express from time to time his or her various views on things. But the opinion of the ISBA is primarily sculpted through the various section councils, who then suggest or make presentations to the board of governors, and that goes out to the assembly.

LB: Gov. Bruce Rauner got into hot water for saying he didn't trust the Supreme Court. Although he backtracked on that, has it had any lasting impact on the legal community? Do you foresee any challenges in working or communicating with his administration during your tenure?

Davi: I don't think so. But here's my perspective on that. I think the impact that it has had on the judges and lawyers in Illinois is positive, and by that I mean it's rallied them together. I don't think a leader of our state, personally — this is not an ISBA position — but as a leader of the state, I don't think our leaders should be making statements like that condemning our entire system.

That does not bode well for our citizens and our state. And I'm glad the president of the ISBA, Rick Felice, did not waste any time putting out a letter condemning such statements and suggested that those statements contain no truth.

We have a very, very good judiciary in our state. I'm proud of it. I go in and out of the courts every day. I have conversations with appellate and Supreme Court judges. They want to do the right thing and help the citizens in an honest and forthright manner. And to be con-

Continued on page 20

➡ Anyone wishing to share information with their fellow Justinians is encouraged to contact Newsletter Associate Editor **Katherine Amari O'Dell** at our Justinian headquarters address: 734 North Wells Street, Chicago, IL 60654; phone (312)255-8550; fax (312)255-8551; kaa@amari-locallo.com.

demned like that I think is just irresponsible. I understand from time to time people say things. But has it tainted the waters? I don't think so. I think we all need to keep working together.

LB: Tell me about the "Illinois-specific, automated legal forms" that you've pledged to provide to lawyers during your term. What exactly are they and why are they necessary?

Davi: Well, the short name for that is "Hot-Docs." It's a Web-based system for our members that they can access that enables them to have at hand forms that are commonly used in transactions. For example, real estate transactions, where you have all the forms you normally use in selling the residence and any other transactions in wills or basic contracts like leases.

So that's what it is. To be able, from your desk, to print those forms and have access them. Just a way to make lawyers' jobs a bit easier, which is what the ISBA is there to do.

LB: You've pledged to create a task force looking in to the Limited License Legal Technicians program? What is that, exactly?

Davi: The Limited License Legal Technicians is an initiative that came out of Washington state, wherein if you attend school, there's a certain number of hours you take. There's an associate's degree, and at the end of that you get a limited license. You can, in a limited way, practice law.

You're not a lawyer. You can't go to court under those terms. But you can advise clients, and you can assist in resolving disputes.

We're not quite sure what this is going to mean for lawyers. This task force has been created through the joint efforts of myself and Rick Felice. The charge is, "take a look at this. What does it mean for lawyers? Is it something we need to be aware of? Is it something we need to do?"

This is not a pro or con position. It's an understanding of what it means. You can appreciate what the concerns might be. Is this going to take clients or work away? The initiative for that was another way of meeting legal needs for people who can't quite afford a lawyers' wage — the unmet legal needs. So that's what drove that.

LB: You want to expand the 711 law license so it covers work at private firms. How far is Illinois from making that a reality?

Davi: With (former ISBA president) John Thies, one of his initiatives when he began was forming a special committee to look at graduates of law schools, the difficulties in getting employment. So that initiative has been con-

tinued through Paula Holderman's year, and Rick Felice's year, and me.

The four of us knew that wasn't going to get solved anytime quickly, so that task force created then was headed by (2nd District Appellate) Justice Ann Jorgensen.

Her committee has gathered information, and they're in the process of putting it together and analyzing it, and they're going to present it at our midyear meeting.

One of the needs they'll be looking at is the shortage of jobs, the size of the debt and the law school curriculum. Is it too long? Are lawyers coming out practice-ready? Or do they need more to begin to practice law? Law firms want to hire lawyers that have two, three, four years' experience. Well what are they going to do to get that experience?

With the 711 license, they can go to court and they can appear in court. There has to be an attorney responsible for them, but they're able to meet clients. Currently, it only is allowed to be issued to government entities.

If we can find a way to expand that to be able to have private law firms issue that, that would be incredible because it would be tantamount to what doctors are able to do through their residency program. They're literally ensconced in a residency and they're able to begin to be doctors. We don't have anything like that. But we should have that.

LB: One recent change to the legal landscape was a bill asking the Supreme Court to exclude U.S. citizenship as one of its criteria for getting an Illinois law license. There was some ambiguity about whether the court actually requires citizenship currently, but is that a positive step forward?

Davi: I will answer that as honestly as I can. I'm very proud of my naturalization process. I was not a citizen when I came here. I'm a citizen today. I owe dearly to that. The process of learning about the American system — how the government was formed, the revolution and all of that — I hold those concepts dear to me as a person and as an individual.

So do I think it's a step in the right direction? I don't know if I have an opinion one way or the other. Not as a president of the ISBA. I am not aware of any position being proposed and or supported by our committees. It doesn't mean it's not there.

In my personal opinion, I think (the citizenship process) is a requirement that a country is entitled to have of its inhabitants, and I think it's something to work toward. As a private citizen, I hold that dear, and I don't know that the Supreme Court should change that.

Del Gloriam Awarded to Betty DeCarlo

Congratulations to Betty DeCarlo, mother of past President Anita DeCarlo and wife of the late past President Vito DeCarlo, upon receipt of the 2015 Dei Gloriam Award. This award is the highest honor



bestowed upon an individual by Saint Ignatius College Prep. St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, lived his life with a strong conviction that all he did should be based on the principle: Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam (for the greater glory of God). The stress on greater implies that we avoid complacency or simply accepting the status quo; rather, we should always be stretching to find ways to better use our gifts and talents to serve God here on earth and thus give God greater honor and glory.

Each year, Saint Ignatius College Prep presents the Dei Gloriam Award to an individual who is a living expression of this Jesuit ideal. Betty DeCarlo's beloved husband, Vito, graduated from Saint Ignatius College Prep in 1950. Both Vito and Betty are true examples of individuals who have endeavored to live their lives in the image of St. Ignatius of Loyola. In recognition of her extraordinary commitment to the church and Catholic education in all aspects of her life, it was the school's honor to present Betty DeCarlo with the 2015 Saint Ignatius College Prep Dei Gloriam Award.

Joe Gagliardo: The Rock'n'Roll Managing Partner

[Editor's note: This article written by Dustin J. Seibert is reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin]

Thomas Bradley, a partner at Laner Muchin, Ltd., says that whenever he goes out with his colleague Joseph M. Gagliardo, Gagliardo gets something of a rock star treatment.

"Everywhere we go, people come up and say 'Hello' to him. It never fails," Bradley says. "He's a real stand-up guy."

The attention likely has a lot to do with all the connections Gagliardo has gained from a 36-year legal career in Chicago. But it might also have something to do with the fact that he's a rock star.

By day, Gagliardo is the managing partner of Laner Muchin, an employment law firm. By night, he plays bass guitar for the Cool Rockin' Daddies, a compendium of old friends who play original music and covers. The band has opened for established bands like ZZ Top, Ted Nugent, Heart and Cheap Trick.

He's had decades to build his audience on the courtroom and on the stage. Gagliardo, 61, is a Chicagoan through and through. He grew up a few blocks from Wrigley Field in the 1950s, the youngest of four children. His parents, Joe and Marie, owned an Italian grocery store that specialized in making Italian sausage.

It was his parents' middle-class background and dedication to hard work that motivated him to stay on top of his academics.

When he was in St. Benedict Preparatory High School, Gagliardo read Gideon's Trumpet, the Anthony Lewis book that depicts the landmark Gideon v. Wainwright U.S. Supreme Court case in which the court ruled under the 14th Amendment that courts are required to provide counsel to those who can't afford their own attorneys in criminal cases.

"It really impacted me how a lawyer could affect society in a positive way and on such a large-scale basis," he says.

The ethos of acceptance was also shared through his parents, who did so in an era when it was not as common.

"My parents' mantra when I was growing up was to always treat everybody with dignity and respect, the way you want to be treated," he says. "We never talked in the house about race or ethnicity or gender...that was just never a topic of conversation."

Gagliardo studied business administration at DePaul University before immediately en-



Joe Gagliardo and Joe Bisceglia rocking out on stage.

rolling in The John Marshall Law School with no idea what type of law he wanted to practice.

His entree into employment law was a series of quick decisions. When he graduated from John Marshall, he didn't apply for jobs because he "had no desire" to work in a law firm, opting instead to hang his own shingle. Gagliardo had his own practice for about a year, when he received an offer from the corporation counsel in fall 1978, he had the option of two openings: prosecuting liquor license violations or handling personnel employment cases.

Another counsel attorney took Gagliardo out for a drink and convinced him that employment law was the "wave of the future," so he decided to put his business degree to work on the legal side of things.

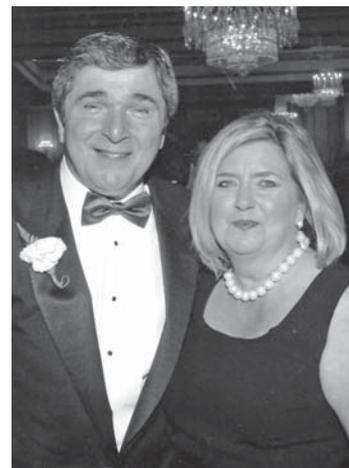
Gagliardo came to Laner Muchin as a partner in 1988, a somewhat daunting transition considering where he came from.

Gagliardo became a managing partner in 2005, which involves him in a number of firm-related matters but hasn't kept him out of the courtroom. He recently represented the State of Illinois in litigation involving the closure of multiple prisons. He also represented Metra in a high-profile 2013 case involving ousted CEO Alex Clifford.

He serves as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association, and was recently retained by the chief judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County to investigate alleged misconduct in the probation department.

"I still get into court, just not on a daily basis like I used to," he says. "Those kinds of projects end up absorbing you for whatever period of time they go on."

Though Gagliardo has worked for a private firm, he has a special affinity for working with government clients, including the State of Illinois, Cook County and the City of Chicago.



Joe and Jennifer Gagliardo

Gagliardo has been especially active in a number of nonprofit organizations outside of Laner Muchin. The Caring Arts Foundation brings artists and musicians to area cancer patients. And the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, an organization in which he was a founding member, pairs mentors in the legal community with underprivileged students to help them get into and through law school and into the legal profession.

"I like organizations where there's a direct correlation between what you're doing and its impact," he says. "I don't just work on something and hear about the results. I see how it impacts people in a positive way." All his work traces back to his upbringing as that kid who came from a blue-collar working family to become a managing partner of one of the preeminent employment law firms in Chicago.

"That makes me very grateful and appreciative and makes me realize that I need to help people along with whatever path they're going on," he says.

OFFICES FOR RENT

Two adjoining offices for immediate rent in a River North location, our Justinian headquarters and the law offices of Amari & Locallo, 734 N. Wells Street. Full amenity building, much synergy, referrals and camaraderie. Plenty of street parking with frontal loading zone. If interested, please contact Matt Hanssel at 312-255-0101 x 117 or mjh@amari-locallo.com.

MaryAnn Hynes

By: Leonard F. Amari

One of the truly outstanding woman lawyers from our community continues to distinguish herself. Mary Ann (Iantorno) Hynes received the American Bar Association Commission on Women's coveted 2015



Margaret Brent award which will be given at the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago in August. The Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, established by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession in 1991, recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of women lawyers who have excelled in their field and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers – both hallmarks of Mary Ann's distinguished career.

Mary Ann, a five-time general counsel veteran and the first woman to serve in that role at a Fortune 500 company in her long career, has always been on the cutting edge, a trail blazer, in the advancement of women in the community and, especially, in the national and local legal communities.

Obviously, Mary Ann is a leader in every respect. She serves on many significant boards, national and international, in addition to that of her law school, The John Marshall Law School. A remarkable and very dear lady.



Mary Ann Hynes and Judge Tim Evans

Goodbye Paul Biebel, old pal

Cook County Circuit Judge Paul Biebel Jr. has overseen one of the most frenetic criminal court systems in the country for nearly 15 years.

Biebel, 73, sent a memo to his fellow judges Monday telling them he will retire from his post in early July.

In a phone interview from his chambers Monday night, Biebel, presiding judge of county's criminal courts division, said he plans to move to the South.

"My wife and I built a house in Tennessee in a golf community," Biebel said. "I have mixed emotions. I've loved this job and the people I've worked with here."

Apart from trying to relearn the game of golf and visiting his children, who are scattered around the country, Biebel said he has few plans.

"It's time to take a deep breath and get some perspective and see where life goes," Biebel said.

Biebel said he is most proud of creating "problem-solving courts" focused on veterans, mental health and prostitution.

And though the law books from his office at the Leighton Criminal Court Building will make the trip to a new bookshelf in his home office in Tennessee, Biebel said he has no plans to practice law again anytime soon.

Biebel grew up on the North Side and attended St. George High School and Marquette University before earning a law degree from Georgetown University. He is married to Judy Pittman-Biebel, a retired judge from Florida.



Congratulations to Judge Paul Biebel upon his retirement from a most distinguished career – most recently as Chief Judge of Cook County Criminal Division. Pictured with Katherine Amari O'Dell, left, and the late Justice Moses Harrison, center.

Romanucci Appointed AAJ Chair

The American Association for Justice (AAJ) has appointed personal injury attorney, Antonio M. Romanucci, as chair of the Police Misconduct Litigation group, effective July 12, 2015. Mr. Romanucci also serves as chair-elect of the Traumatic Brain Injury Litigation Group and was elected to a three year term as one of AAJ's PAC trustees this year. Founding partner and principal at Romanucci & Blandin, LLC, Mr. Romanucci has been an active member of AAJ for nearly 20 and has served leadership positions since July 2007.



"I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve as chair of the Police Misconduct Litigation group for AAJ, as well as serve other meaningful leadership roles for the organization," said Mr. Romanucci. "The use of unlawful, excessive force by police officers currently taking place across our country is a rampant concern. I am looking forward to collaborating with other like-minded attorneys and individuals in my new role, to tackle this issue head-on."

At the AAJ annual conference in Montreal, Canada, Mr. Romanucci spoke to the Police Misconduct Litigation Group and Civil Rights Section on the topic of "Overcoming Juror Bias in Police Misconduct Cases". His July 13th presentation focused on key issues involving implicit bias and methods to deselect jurors with bias in favor of police officers and trial strategies to contain jurors with bias who make it onto juries.

During his tenure, Mr. Romanucci will focus on initiating and continuing the great work of those preceding him in ensuring that the civil justice system remains intact for victims of tortious conduct.

Antonio Romanucci is recognized locally and nationally for his leadership, expertise, and technique in the field of personal injury. For his successes, Antonio has been named a 'Top 100 Super Lawyer' in Illinois for 10 consecutive years, an 'Illinois Leading Lawyer' since 2003, and was named a 'Best Lawyer in Chicago' in 2013 and 2014 by U.S. News and World Report. Additionally, Antonio has a perfect Martindale Hubble AV rating and an AVVO rating of 10/10.

SACA to Fete Judge Coco with Medal of Merit

By: Cristina Mungai Scalzitti

On Sunday, September 27, the Sicilian

American Cultural Association (SACA) will present the Honorable Judge Gloria G. Coco with its highest honor, the Medal of Merit. An esteemed jurist, Judge Coco was the first woman to serve as president of the Justinian Society



since its founding in 1921. Judge Coco was appointed to the bench in 1991 and became the first woman of full Italian ancestry to ascend to the bench in Cook County, Illinois. She served as supervising judge of First Municipal District, Domestic Violence Division for 10 years, from 1997 until her retirement from the bench in 2007. Of course, many of our members were instrumental in the creation of SACA. Past Justinian President, Katherine (Amari) O'Dell, presently serves as president.

Before entering the legal profession, Judge Coco was a dedicated teacher for the Chicago Public School system. She obtained her Juris Doctorate from Northern Illinois University and began her legal career as an assistant Cook County State's Attorney. Prior to her becoming a member of the judiciary, Judge Coco was appointed special assistant attorney General by Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan, and created the Illinois' first felony prosecution system dubbed, "Operation Two-Timer" which combatted unemployment insurance fraud. She then served as deputy chief of the Illinois Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. Subsequently, Judge Coco worked for the City of Chicago's Department of Buildings under Mayor Richard M. Daley where she created the Code Enforcement Bureau which is the go-between for the Circuit Court Cook County's Housing Court, and the City of Chicago's Building Compliance Board.

In 2004, while still a member of the Illinois judiciary, Judge Coco graduated Summa Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Communications in Evanston, Illinois, with a degree in radio, television, film, and theater performance. Although her professional pursuits may have changed, Judge Coco's dedication to teaching, learning, public service and the arts have remained a constant throughout her professional life.

Judge Coco has served as chair of the Circuit Court's Family Violence Coordinating Council. She continues to be involved in efforts to establish a coordinated approach to preventing and addressing domestic violence in our communities. The Federal Bureau Investigation (FBI) invited Judge Coco to be a lecturer and participant at its Leesburg, Virginia headquarters for the National Symposium "Family Violence: The Impact of Child, Intimate Partner and Elder Abuse" which was attended by national leaders in Law Enforcement and Medicine.



Honorable Gloria G. Coco

She has been an instructor, and lecturer in the area of domestic violence for a myriad of associations, and members of law enforcement, as well as judges including; The Illinois Judicial Conference, The Illinois State Bar Association's Domestic Violence Training Seminar for Attorneys and Judges, The National College of District Attorneys Association, The National Counsel of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, The NCJJ Domestic Violence and Firearms Summit, The National Association of Women Judges, the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts, and The Illinois Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Judge Coco also spearheaded the "Outreach to Education" initiative, in which judges and court professional visit Chicago Public Schools to discuss violence prevention and problem solving skills with elementary school children. With multiple professional affiliations too extensive to name, Judge Coco remain a tireless advocate for children and families affected by domestic violence.

Since graduation from Northwestern Judge Coco has written and performed several theatrical pieces for Chicago's Live Bait Theater. She is the author of *The Passages of Grace*, about her family's harrowing immigration experiences on Ellis Island and the one act play, *Finding Uncle Alfio*, about the search for the

grave of her mother's 4 year old brother who died while the family was detained on Ellis Island. She is also co-author of the book *Italian Woman in Chicago*, edited by Dr. Dominic Candeloro, Ph.D.

Judge Coco is featured in the PBS Chicago documentary, *Remembering Chicago, The Boomer Years*. She served as the legal technical advisor for and also co-starred in CBS' *The Defenders* starring Jim Belushi and Jerry O'Connell. She has co-starred in numerous TV episodics most notably *Parks and Recreation* and *Southland*. She has also appeared in many independent films such as *Act Naturally*, *Super Act Naturally* and *Paranormal Adoption* and television commercials including *Tropicana*, *Coca Cola* and *Eli Lilly*. Judge Coco's work in film and television have earned her membership in Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA). Judge Coco is a founding partner in the law enforcement consulting business, *Law and Order Consulting* (www.lawandorderconsulting.com). Judge Coco currently serves as chair of The Chicago Bar Association's Entertainment and Media Law Committee.

Judge Coco is first generation Sicilian-American. Her mother Grazielia Manninco Pappalardo Coco was born in Trecastagni, Sicily which is also the city of origin of father, Samuel J. Coco, who was an original member of the Justinian Society of Lawyers founded in 1921. She receives the Medal of Merit in recognition of her many accomplishments as an educator, attorney, jurist, actor, and writer of Sicilian decent.

SACA's Medal of Merit will be conferred on the Honorable Judge Gloria G. Coco on September 27, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. Monastero's Banquets, 3935 West Devon Avenue, Chicago, IL. For further information contact Martha Monastero at msm@monasteros.com or call 773-588-2515.



1993 Justinian President Judge Gloria G. Coco and The Democratic candidate for Vice President late Senator Geraldine Ferraro and the Justinian Award of Excellence recipient.

The Salvi Family in the Law

By: Leonard F. Amari

Since the turn of the 20th century, Italian-Americans have had a significant impact on the Illinois legal community, mostly through participation in the Justinian Society of (Italian) Lawyers, and by community participation by individual achievements. There has been no greater impact than from the contributions of very successful and highly respected Salvi family. This family are not just attorneys who have passed the bar exam, but have been leaders in the community as well as, especially, the legal profession. From extremely successful trial lawyers in the catastrophic injury field, to bar leadership and community leaders, this outstanding family is well recognized and highly respected for all their contributions.

The history of the Salvis in America began when the great grandfather, Alberto Salvi, a famous harpist, came to the United States in the early 1900s. He emigrated from a small town outside of Venice. After arriving in the United States, he had a son, Albert, who attended Notre Dame for his undergraduate studies and Northwestern Law School. He was a highly respected and successful general practitioner for decades in Lake County and started his own firm, Salvi, Salvi & Wifler, located in Lake Zurich, IL. Albert then had nine children, five of which have become lawyers – with more grandchildren on their way. For example, the most recent is Katie, a JD candidate at Ave Maria Law School.

Using the old adage, “the fruit doesn’t fall far from the tree,” we highlight this month a number of Salvi lawyers, renowned catastrophic injury lawyers and extraordinarily successful in representing seriously injured victims in the tort field – and all in the same firm.

The now “senior” family member, Patrick A. Salvi, son of Albert, concentrates his legal practice in several limited areas primarily involving a trial practice in cases concerning serious personal injury, medical malpractice and wrongful death. This Salvi recently achieved record breaking jury verdicts and settlements on behalf of his clients, amounting to well over 100 million dollars, including a record high 33 million dollar jury verdict.

Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard was established by Mr. Salvi in Waukegan, Illinois in 1982. With offices in Chicago and Waukegan, the law firm has 12 lawyers and is supported by more than 25 staff members including paralegals, nurse paralegals and administrative assistants.

Today, Mr. Salvi is ranked by his peers as one of the most prominent attorneys in the country in his field. Not to mention one of the most well liked and available when it comes to supporting other Italian-Americans and activities of our ethnic community. His efforts on behalf of our ethnic causes are legendary, helping Italian-American political candidates, ethnic causes, programs and efforts.

Pat was named one of the “Best Lawyers in America” by Woodward/White Inc. Mr. Salvi was the recipient, year after year, of the Award for Trial Lawyer Excellence by The Jury Verdict Reporter and Law Bulletin Publishing Company.

In 2013, Mr. Salvi was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Jury Instructions in Civil Cases. A highly significant appointment, which speaks volumes of his, and his firm’s, esteem among judges and lawyers in Illinois. He is also a member of the prestigious Economic Club of Chicago providing members of the business world a platform to express and discuss economic, business and social issues. Other accolades include: “Highest Rating for Legal Ability and General Recommendation” and “Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers” from Martindale Hubbell American Law Directory; member of the AAJ Leaders Forum; “The Leading American Attorneys of Illinois” from The Consumer Law Guidebook; “One of the Top Ten Personal Injury Lawyers in Illinois” and “Top 5% of all Lawyers in Illinois” from a survey of lawyers and judges conducted by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company’s Leading Lawyer Network.

In 2001, Patrick was invited to become a fellow in the prestigious International Academy of Trial Lawyers. He is also a former President of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association and served a three-year term (2010-2012) as Chairman on the Character and Fitness, 2nd District Committee of the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar. Additionally, Mr. Salvi is Chairman of the Law School Advisory Council and is an Adjunct Law Professor at the University of Notre Dame, teaching “Personal Injury Litigation” to 3rd year law students. And the list of his accomplishments and recognitions could go on and on.



He went to St. Mary’s University of Minnesota and after graduating from Notre Dame Law School in 1978, Pat went into his father’s general law practice. He was drawn to the courtroom.

Patrick was selected in 2014 as a “Super Lawyer” and was named one of the Top 10 Personal Injury Lawyers in Illinois in the consumer edition of Leading Lawyers Magazine. Again using the old saw, “the fruit doesn’t all far from the tree,” Pat’s oldest son, Patrick A. Salvi II, has been practicing law for less than a decade. He joined Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard in 2007, and, with the firm, concentrates his practice on cases involving personal injury, medical malpractice, product liability and commercial litigation. An example of the talent of this young professional: during just his first trial as lead attorney, this Salvi secured a \$1.28 million injury verdict for a teenage client who sustained a broken leg and knee cap. Furthermore, he has also obtained a \$29.1 million verdict in a medical malpractice case brought in federal court and a \$33.2 million jury verdict in a Lake County injury case. In that case, Salvi, along with his father, was trial counsel for a young man who suffered catastrophic injuries in an automobile collision resulting in the client being left as a quadriplegic. The trial resulted in the highest verdict ever achieved in Lake County, Illinois.

Patrick (the younger) received his B.A. from the University of Colorado in 2004 and earned his J.D. cum laude from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 2007 – carrying on the family’s Notre Dame tradition. While in law school, he received the award from the International Academy of Trial Lawyers for excellence in trial advocacy.

This Salvi is a member of the Lake County Bar Association, the Justinian Society of Lawyers (Lake County Chapter), the Chicago Bar Association, and the Illinois State Bar Association.

Continued on page 25

ciation, where he is a member of the Standing Committee on Judicial Evaluations. He is involved with and a member of the American Association for Justice as well as the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, where he serves on the Board of Advocates and co-chairs the seminar planning committee. Young Patrick has judged ABA and AAJ trial competitions for the past four years, and this year was a judge in the ABA Moot Court competition. In addition, he has also been a speaker at the MBA business law class at Kellogg's School of Management and for the class "Personal Injury Litigation" at the Notre Dame Law School.

Patrick II was formerly the chairman and currently sits on the Board of Advisors for St. Agnes of Bohemia Elementary School in the southwest side of Chicago. A few years back, the younger Patrick has been recognized by the legal community with one of its most prestigious recognitions, the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin's 40 lawyers under the age of 40 recognition.

This Patrick Salvi also enjoyed being named an "Illinois Super Lawyer" in 2014.

The most recent edition to the Salvi family of lawyers is recently licensed Brian L. Salvi, an attorney since 2013. He joined Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard, P.C. in 2013. He concentrates his legal practice on cases concerning personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability. Brian received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Finance from the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business and his law degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School.

At Notre Dame Law School, Brian was a member of the school's mock trial team and competed in the American Association for Justice Student Trial Advocacy Competition. His mock trial team was the 2012 and 2013 Regional Champions in Louisville, Kentucky and 2013 National Champion in New Orleans, Louisiana. During the team's 2013 National Championship run, they outperformed over 220 other teams and finished with an 11-0 trial record between the Regional and National Competition. Mr. Salvi also previously served as a law clerk at Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard.

Additional credentials and distinctions Brian L. Salvi holds include: memberships in the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, the Lake County Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, and the American Association of Justice.

The Salvi family and the law, examples of the best our community has to offer.

Book Review: *Chicago Law: A Trial Lawyer's Journey*, by Joseph A. Garofalo

Reviewed by: Katherine Amari O'Dell

This book is an inspirational memoir in which the author, Joe Garofalo, pays tribute to many of the people who influenced his development as a young man, including family members, neighbors, professors, lawyer mentors, partners, clients and friends. A true Justinian experience, the book recounts some of the important lessons he learned while coming of age, tells the story of some of the key experiences which occurred while he developed his skills as a trial lawyer, and explores how he discovered his "inner Italian" nature. He shares many of the lessons he learned along the way, which are of obvious benefit to the reader.

I recommend you join Joe on his journey from his youth as the child of a single mother, who was raised by her and her parents, along with his extended family, and all of the people in his neighborhood who watched out for him and helped him where they could. The reader comes to understand that one of the reasons Joe works so hard today is because he learned the value of hard work early in life, having started working at the age of ten selling newspapers on the corner of Montrose and Kimball. Observe the development of his character as he pursued a study of the classics, came to value the pursuit of higher education, and became the first member of his family to graduate from college and ultimately be recognized as one of the three highest rated workers' compensation business defense trial lawyers in the State of Illinois.

Joe discusses his love of practicing law and all of the people who make that practice so meaningful and enjoyable, including his partners, associates, staff members, clients, opponents, the arbitrators before whom he frequently appears, and many of the vendors who are involved in the workers' compensation system, many of which are our brother and sister Justinians. But it doesn't stop there. He also explores the discovery of himself, not only by focusing on those who influenced him with their tender loving care, but also how he followed his instincts, which led him to find a new life for his wife and himself immersed in an agricultural community, growing grapes, and producing and selling wine, a lifestyle he never imagined in his youth.

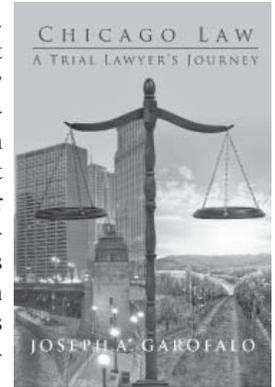
Joe shares the experience of his growing spirituality, which is founded on the Christian ideals he learned as a youth, but is supplemented by his life long interest in eastern religions, and his practice of meditation

(Kundalini Yoga). It becomes apparent to the reader how his thinking was influenced by Joseph Campbell's concept of "following your bliss." His recounting of his "religious pilgrimage" with travels in Italy, is especially interesting and insightful.

I enjoyed learning about Joe's journey and realized that his story isn't much different from my own, from our own, since I identified with many of the experiences he recounted, as will my fellow Justinians. By understanding how Joe overcame adversity in his life, I experienced my own triumph over adversity. Through his story about how hard he worked to achieve his successes, I reconfirmed the value of my own hard work. After reading about his perspective on helping others, I understand why showing love for your fellow man and paying it forward really is the best way to live. I also reconfirmed why my willingness to help others when they are down makes my life better as well as those I give a helping hand. I was fascinated by how Joe kept a positive attitude, regardless what happened, and that he accepted whatever came to him, and somehow, found a way to make lemonade whenever life sent him lemons. Through his story, I came to realize, like he did, that the purpose of life is not to serve our own ends, but truly is to save each other, and make the world a better place than the way we found it. By knowing his story, now I too know that by helping others, we also serve ourselves, since we are part of everything and everything is part of us. I have reached the same conclusion that Joe did: None of us stands alone and we can't do something to anyone without also doing it to ourselves.

I highly recommend that you read this very enjoyable and heart warming book. The reader will be the better for having read what Joe has to say. As I say, a true Justinian experience.

[Editor's Note: If you would like to order a copy, please visit <https://wwwcreatespace.com/4791995> and use discount code K8DRD-FN5. You may also purchase paper and e-book versions at Amazon.com, by visiting this link: <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1500605050>.]



New Leader, Same Game for the Justinian Society

[Editor's note: This article written by Andrew Maloney is reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin]

One of Jessica T. DePinto's favorite quotes is on the side of the Nike store on Michigan Avenue.

"Roofs may be retractable, lights may be added, but the crack of the bat sounds the same in the spring," she said.

It's a glowing homage to the durability of America's pastime.

But to DePinto, who joked that she was "probably the most un-athletic person on the planet," it's also an apt description for the Justinian Society of Lawyers, and the bonds between its members.

"It strikes me as what we're about," DePinto said. "We may be facing our 100th anniversary soon. We may be in an environment now where pleadings are online, and our profession looks vastly different than it did 10 years ago — let alone 100 years ago — but I think the quality that's like the crack of the bat is the camaraderie."

DePinto was sworn in as the Justinians' seventh female president Wednesday, replacing outgoing president Anita M. DeCarlo in a ceremony at Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse.

An IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law graduate, DePinto is a manager in Deloitte Tax LLP's customs and trade group. But beginning this week, she'll be taking a leave of absence from the company to become an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where she'll teach business law.

"In my heart of hearts, I'm a teacher," DePinto said. "I love teaching concepts to my clients, and I love teaching to my staff. It was an opportunity that presented itself and I thought at this stage in my career and life, it's really a good one."

It's a role she's looking forward to and a role that will give her more time to dedicate to the Justinian Society.

Formed in 1921 as the Justinian Society of Advocates by some of the city's small population of Italian-American law-



Jessica DePinto, right, with Antonio Romanucci and Joe Bisceglia

yers, the group has since grown into the fourth-largest bar association in Illinois — behind the Illinois State Bar Association, The Chicago Bar Association and the Northwest Suburban Bar Association.

Its numbers, like those of other bar groups, have been down recently. But DePinto said one of her goals is to focus on recruiting and retaining members.

"That's something that all of the bar associations are going through. We're competing with various organizations and, quite frankly, people's time," she said.

The group has honored some well-known figures in the past with its Award of Excellence.

The list includes politicians such as Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman on a major party ticket for vice president of the United States; A. Bartlett GiamattAi, the former Yale University president and commissioner of Major League Baseball who banned Pete Rose for betting on games; and Jerry Colangelo, the former owner and general manager of the NBA's Phoenix Suns and director of USA Basketball.

The group holds monthly dinners, golf outings and other events that have raised nearly \$75,000 each year to fund law student scholarships and between \$25,000 and \$50,000 each year for disabled and disadvantaged children, said Leonard F. Amari, co-managing partner at Amari & Locallo in Chicago who headed the society in 1978.

Amari has known DePinto since she graduated from law school in 1996.

"She's highly respected, very motivated and highly organized," Amari said.

There's no requirement for lawyers to be Italian to join. But members of the group place special emphasis on treating each other like family.

"What was so meaningful to me personally and professionally about being an officer

and member of the Justinian Society, those officers and members who were there who came before me and after, we were almost like an extended family," said Gloria G. Coco, the first female president of the group and the first Italian-American woman to become a judge in Illinois.

"That is something we know Jessica will do. She's a very special woman ... I know that she will carry on that continuity of historical fellowship."

DePinto recalled how supportive the group was when her father was diagnosed with leukemia in 2008 and given only months to live.

At the time, she was a member of the group's executive board. When she "basically took a sabbatical," she said, from practicing law to be with him, she also had to step away from the group.

The Justinians essentially told her, "Come back whenever you're ready," she said.

"Not only did they do that — as I was doing the half-marathon for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, my Justinian colleagues were the ones that came out in full force," DePinto said. "So those are the types of things that go far beyond networking or career-building.

"It's really taking an interest in your members. Wherever life takes you, we're here to help you, and mentor you and guide you."

Silvestri a Source of Pride

By: Leonard F. Amari

First and foremost a lawyer, as well as a leader of our Italian-American community in the Chicagoland area, Peter N. Silvestri serves as a role model for our nieces and nephews, sons and daughters, cousins, and others from our community that aspire to be successful in the legal field and or the political arena. I first met Pete (more years ago than either of us cares to remember) while attending a regular monthly meeting of the Justinian Society of (Italian) Lawyers, something he rarely misses. He takes being active in the ethnic bar association very seriously, as he obviously does in all his professional life, as an elected political official, community leader, friend and parent.

Peter N. Silvestri, now age 57, was elected Cook County Commissioner for the 9th County District on November 8, 1994 and reelected continuously without interruption, currently serving his 6th consecutive term. He was endorsed and strongly supported by our community's political voice, the Italian American Political Coalition, in each election. He has supported conservative spending and controlled tax policies and actions. He has consistently opposed new taxes, stressing a need to reform practices before imposing additional taxation. Silvestri supports greater access to public health, expansion of forest preserves, especially in Chicago and nearby suburbs, and greater cooperation between local and county governments. And always, our community places highly on his agenda.

The 9th Cook County District includes Chicago Neighborhoods Hiawatha Park, Edison Park, Oriole Park, Cumberland/Lawrence. Norwood Park, Harlem/Higgins and North Edgebrook along with the suburbs of Mount Prospect, River Forest, River Grove, Norwood Park Township, Rosemont, Harwood Heights, Norridge, Park Ridge, Schiller Park and portions of Des Plaines, Morton Grove, Prospect Heights and unincorporated areas of both Maine and Wheeling Townships.

On the Cook County Board, Commissioner Silvestri is chairman of the Zoning and Building Committee and the Litigation Sub-Committee. He is a member of the Construction, Finance, Tax Delinquency, Tax and



Peter Silvestri, center, with Jessica DePinto and Cristina Mungai Scalzitti.

Revenue, Health and Hospital, Public Health, Law Enforcement/Corrections, Family Court/Juvenile, Legislation & Intergovernmental Affairs and Roads and Bridges Committees. As a Commissioner of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Silvestri is Chairman of the Litigation Committee and a member of the Annexation, Finance, Legislation & Intergovernmental Affairs, Real Estate and Zoological Committees. His considerable legal talent enhances Pete's participation in his extraordinarily difficult and diverse committee responsibilities. His actions on the board are always collegial, non-confrontational and he gets along with and is respected by all the folks on both sides of the political aisle.

Silvestri has made it clear since being elected to the Cook County Board that he is committed to formulating creative ways to improve county government, with an emphasis on cutting budgets and controlling taxes without negatively impacting services to residents. His primary goals have been in the areas of public safety and the forest preserve and better delivery of health services to all areas of the county.

Peter N. Silvestri formerly also served as the Village President of Elmwood Park. He was first elected in 1989 and re-elected in 1993 and 1997. During his administration, he stressed a progressive agenda with a conservative approach to budgets and taxes. Accomplishments of the Silvestri Administration included: greater focus in economic development, increased parks and recreation, village beautification and enhanced public safety. His final legacy as Village President was the completion of a new and improved public library.

He served as President of the Leyden-Norwood Park Municipal League from 1990 to 1994. He was President of the Board of Directors of the West Central Municipal Conference, a council representing thirty-six suburbs, and a representative to the Suburban Mayors Council, which represents 128 suburban communities in Cook County.

Silvestri's past service includes being a student leader in Elmwood Park High School and a Teen Coordinator with the village's recreation department. In 1977, at the age of 20, he was elected to the Unit School District 401 Board of Education and served as president, making him the youngest person to ever hold that position. Following his two terms on the school board, he was a member of the Elmwood Park Zoning Board, Plan Commission, Civic Foundation and served as a village trustee.

Peter is a graduate of DePaul University in 1979 and DePaul College of Law, with a Juris Doctorate in 1982. He and his son Christian Peter are parishioners of St. Vincent's Roman Catholic Church in River Forest.

Before entering politics, Pete was employed with the Illinois Department of Labor serving as Associate Director from 1984 to 1994. He also served for several years prior thereto with the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

His mother and father trace their roots to the same region of Italy, Regioni de Lazio, the town of Pofi, just on the outskirts of Frosinone, near Rome. In fact, Peter returns to his family's roots often, visiting family on his mother's side that never left.

Peter N. Silvestri may be an elected Cook County Commissioner, the former president of the wonderful community of Elmwood Park, a highly respected lawyer and professional, but he is also to many of us, a good and faithful friend, role model and someone we can all look up to and be proud of. His continuing service as President of the Italian-American Political Coalition, the political voice of our ethnic community in the Chicagoland area, and leadership activities in the Justinian Society of (Italian) Lawyers is further evidence of his valuable leadership.

Another example of the best our community has to offer.

Incoming DCBA Leader Set to Help Young Lawyers of All Ages

[Editor's note: This article written by Jack Silverstein is reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin]

James J. Laraia will have to wait 11 months for what he thinks will be one of the most enjoyable events of his upcoming DuPage County Bar Association presidency.

"We are going to end the year with all of the Kentucky Derby traditions," said Laraia, who will be installed as DCBA president on June 4 in the bar association's 136th officer installation.

"The mint juleps and the wonderful big hats and the seersucker suits. I think it's going to be a lot of fun."

He's got other goals in the meantime.

A family law attorney with Wheaton firm Laraia & Laraia P.C., Laraia's aims for the 2,700-member bar association — founded in 1879 — include advancing the group's strategic plan, providing debt education to young attorneys and retirement guidance to older ones.

After earning his J.D. in 2001 at Northern Illinois University College of Law, Laraia, 40, worked as an assistant state's attorney in DuPage before joining the firm his father Joseph M. Laraia founded in 1966.

From his father and the elder Laraia's lawyer friends, Laraia learned that the law is "a profession, not a game," meaning that attorneys should view legal issues from a problem-solving perspective rather than wins and losses.

"What they taught me was you always have to be professional in how you address the opposing counsel, but more importantly, how you address the issue or problem that you are trying to solve for the parties," he said.

In this interview with the Daily Law Bulletin, edited for space, Laraia discusses his interest in the law and his vision for the bar association.

Law Bulletin: Tell us about the origins of your interest in the law.

Laraia: Obviously it's growing up with my dad, sitting at the dinner table and ... learning from my father the rights that people have ... and how those can be infringed. How every-



one is entitled to a defense. And how the law is there to protect you. And that, unfortunately at times, it's used against you when it shouldn't be.

Also, growing up with his friends who were dear friends of his who are, as he is, recognized by the legal community as being some of the best minds in the legal community. (John F. Donahue, Ralph J. Gabric, George Patrick Lynch, Joseph F. Mirabella Jr. and John B. Kincaid)

Growing up with these people, seeing them on a week-in-week-out basis is really what drew me to the law.

Law Bulletin: As you look ahead to your year as president, what are your goals?

Laraia: My goals as president are really three separate goals.

The first goal is in furtherance of our strategic plan that was approved by our board of directors in August 2014. We created new substantive law sections. ... It would be any substantive law issue.

In the past, we used to rely upon a chair and vice chair to provide all of these benefits to our members. Now we're providing a leadership council to each section to be able to do all of that.

We have the substantive law section in place today, starting with this year moving forward. It's up to us this year to iron out all of the problems that may arise, to strengthen how the leadership councils are going to work and to make sure that we have a lasting platform and lasting plan for these leadership councils and sections for years to come.

Through the work of Lynn Cavallo, our current president, and Ted Donner, our second vice president, and the planning committee, we created a new-lawyer division for the bar association. My second goal is to increase what the new-lawyer division will provide for our new lawyers in terms of basic skills, Continuing Legal Education, use of our mentoring program and debt-education services.

As you're probably aware, we have a crisis with our new lawyers ... in that their educational debt usually far exceeds their ability to pay it. Unfortunately, there are less jobs for lawyers, so you now have more lawyers with more debt and less jobs they can obtain to pay off that debt.

We want to try to help those new lawyers by providing them with debt-education services as well as more basic skills as they go out and hang their shingle.

Those educational services can be how to better manage your finances and the payment of that debt, how to better manage your office finances. ... It's really trying to provide them with the financial education and options that they might have in how they can address that debt while trying to get themselves started within the legal community.

Law Bulletin: And the last goal?

Laraia: The last goal is to provide to our more experienced attorneys, transitioning attorneys or retiring attorneys a succession plan manual that they can then have with other information regarding how to prepare for their retirement, how to prepare for forced retirement for medical reasons and how to transition out of their practice and sell their practice. Those would be the three goals.

Law Bulletin: Looking back, what would you say were your biggest accomplishments during your run-up to president?

Laraia: My favorite accomplishments have been being a part of the last two strategic plans that have occurred over the last six years. ...

In traveling and going to different ABA conventions where you meet other bar leaders, I believe that our bar association, especially for its size, is really on par with any other bar association. I feel that through our strategic plan we continue to increase the bar association's presence in the legal community as well as in the benefits we provide to our members

David Arena: Highly Respected Attorney and Tenacious Litigator

In this issue, we highlight the career of David T. Arena, one of the brighter lights in the Illinois legal community, a respected and highly successful litigator, and a partner in the influential and impacting firm of DiMonte & Lizak.

Jesuit educated, David T. Arena received his undergraduate degree from Loyola University Chicago, concentrating in political science and graduated with honors in 1993. While in college, an obvious precursor to his accomplishments as a lawyer, he was involved in the Lakeshore Student Government Association, was a member of Phi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society, a recipient of a Presidential Scholarship, and a Dean's List student. David received his law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland, Ohio, Cum Laude in 1996. While in law school he honed the tenacity he brought as a trial attorney into the practice of law through experiences such as participating in 1995-1996 on the Moot Court Board of Governors; 1995 American Bar Association National Moot Court Competition; American Inns of Court, just to mention a few of the accomplishments while studying law.

Presently, and since 1996, David has been with the law firm of another community leader, Gene DiMonte, who along with his son Riccardo, among others, are DiMonte & Lizak, LLC. This highly respected, multi-tasked law firm is located in Park Ridge, with more than 25 attorneys with a goal to expand. This is a highly respected mid-sized law firm that offers attorneys, especially David Arena, skilled in multiple practice areas.

Of his charismatic partner, Riccardo DiMonte says, "We have worked together for 20 years and he has always been extremely conscientious and diligent concerning every case we've brought to court. David has always been careful with the facts and the law.

He's also a friendly and well-liked individual with a great sense of humor."



An accomplishment to the tenacity and legal skills of the firm of DiMonte & Lizak and David Arena is perfectly exemplified in a 2014 matter involving a longtime business owner in Mount Prospect against the Village and members of its administration. In July of 2014, DiMonte & Lizak's litigation team, coordinated by Riccardo DiMonte, David Arena, and others, obtained a favorable settlement for their client against the Village of Mount Prospect. In the lawsuit, various Village employees and the Village of Mount Prospect were alleged to have violated the Civil RICO Statute, highly unusual application of this federal statute, which is another example of the foresight of the abilities of this firm and David Arena. The allegation was that this proprietor of a small pizza shop's civil rights were violated in an effort to force the client to sell his property for less than fair market value. On the eve of trial, the firm recovered for its client the whopping sum of a \$6.5 million settlement and resolved the dispute that had been pending for approximately six years. Again, this is just an example of David T. Arena's tenacity and skill, and that of his law firm's, to competently handle complex legal matters.

When I asked this month's subject for his ethnic history, smartly, he went to his Dad for details. Here, in Paul Arena's own words, is the history of this Arena family, in America.

"Grandpa John Arena was born in Torre Faro, Sicily in June 1908 and Grandma Maria Barca Arena in Villaggio Paradiso near

Messina, in February 1914. Grandpa was in the merchant marine for a few years and after that he was in the Italia Navy. After he was discharged he married Grandma and he made a connection with someone that was working in the motion picture industry in Rome. He was offered a position to be a distributor on movie films in Eritrea, at that time part of Ethiopia. The territory covered all the Italian colony and part of Somalia. A year after, I was born in Asmara in 1940 and two years later your uncle Aldo was born there. Since this was an Italian colony, Asmara was like an Italian city and everyone spoke Italian. Aldo and I were baptized and attended services in a beautiful Cathedral and went to Catholic grammar school. Grandpa purchased two movie theaters which he sold to my uncle Stefano in 1950 when we moved back to Italy.

We relocated to Torre Faro for about 6 months and when Grandpa started in movie distributorship in Calabria, Italy. We moved to Villa San Giovanni were your uncle Sal was born. Soon after that, we moved to Cosenza (Calabria) where we resided until he decided that it was in the best interest of his children to move to the United States in December 1955.

Since he could not speak English, Grandpa had no chance to get any positions in the movies industry so he worked in a factory with my uncle Joe until he retired and Grandma worked in a factory as a seamstress. My brothers and I went to high school in Newark NJ and College in the same area; I served six years in a medical Army Reserve Unit during the Vietnam War. I met your mom in high School and we married in Newark."

Of his protégé and young partner, the Senior Partner of the firm, the highly respected Gene DiMonte says: "David is an aggressive lawyer, but at the same time, an ethical one and a polite and nice person."

Another example of the best our community has to offer.

Michelotti, Retires from Leo Burnett Worldwide as EVP & Chief Legal Officer

For 36 of the agency's 80 years, Carla Michelotti, EVP & Chief Legal, Government and Corporate Affairs Officer, has epitomized "reaching for the stars." Carla has decided to leave the agency, but it would be misleading to call this a "retirement," as Carla will not be standing still.

Carla has been a dear career friend to many, many of us, receiving the prestigious Justinian Award of Excellence in 2006 during the tenure of Judge Celia Gamrath as President.

As the head of LBW's legal department for many years, Carla trained, managed and led the strong team of professionals responsible for all legal issues around the Burnett network. She has mentored dozens of Burnnetters at all levels. Her practical advice and legal judgment has helped generations of LBW management. Her unique leadership skills have helped us to be "best in the world — bar none" despite the challenges LBW and their clients have faced.

In fact, if Carla had her own version of a career "creative reel," it might get a 7+ of its own. That reel would include the financing for 35 West Wacker, hundreds (if not thousands) of all types of contracts, hundreds of talent and music deals (including the first licensing of "Bette Davis Eyes," "Pac-Man," and "Rhapsody in Blue"), and contracting with dozens of celebrities, including the likes of Gene Kelly and Gene Hackman. Her virtual "legal reel" would include countless creative concepts saved, supported and produced. And it would also include more than a few legal battles — the full stories of many of which she likely would never really share!

As the agency has changed over the decades, Carla has legally navigated Leo Burnett through dozens of acquisitions, reinventions, mergers and redirections. It's been quite a ride she has had in the legal seat, helping Starcom get started, creating mini-agencies, acquiring operations in Eastern Europe after the wall fell, securing country approvals for Bcom3, and navigating business with Publicis Groupe. As



Carla Michelotti, center, with Judge Lisa Marino and Judge Celia Gamrath

Carla put it, "No one would think that the legal side of this place would be 'fun', but it has been all of that."

As the key industry navigator through government regulations around the world, Carla has played a vital leadership and strategic role in shaping Leo Burnett's fortunes. She has been recognized globally for her role in advocating freedom of commercial speech, establishing and supporting advertising and privacy self-regulation and, in early Internet days, actually being the first to meet with leaders in the White House and Brussels to discuss the need to identify and address the legal and privacy issues being introduced by advertising on the Internet. Not surprisingly, LBW have asked Carla to continue to represent the agency as LBW's "industry ambassador" as she moves into this next chapter of her life.

In addition to being dedicated to the agency and her team, Carla dedicated time to serving on the boards of many charitable and industry groups. She was a Chairman of the AAF, and has received many honors and awards from the industry as well from legal and community associations. And yet, she was always ready to have fun with her husband, family and friends.

As of September, Carla will be moving into a tomorrow of new adventures. Leo Burnett has been her home and Burnnetters her work family. If you have ever worked with Carla, you know that she cares greatly, is a legal strategist and a problem solver. LBW's creative product and agency have benefited from her work and dedication.

Goldberg Weisman & Cairo - a Family Affair

[Editor's note: This article written by Paul Dailing is reprinted with permission from the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin]

The view out of the Kemper Building at 1 E. Wacker Drive is magnificent, sprawling out to an eagle's view of the Chicago River and the Loop. But when Deanna Cairo Arthur, now an associate at Goldberg Weisman & Cairo Ltd., would visit her father's office as a child, it wasn't the window that drew her attention. It was a desk chair.

"I just remember being little and being in my dad's office, sitting in his chair and always hoping someday it would be my chair," she says.

Her father is Louis C. "Lou" Cairo, senior partner at Illinois' largest personal injury firm. Along with her brother, Louis Anthony Cairo, who found out he passed the bar in March, Deanna is part of the next generation of Cairos in the legal profession.

"While I am very proud of being the boss's daughter, it's always been important for me to be my own person and sort of make my own name and be 'Deanna Cairo' versus 'Louis Cairo's daughter, Deanna Cairo,'" she says. "I think there were expectations, either people assumed we would fail or that we would just ride on our dad's coattails."

Even if coasting were an option at the firm — and it's not — the younger Cairos have never taken advantage of that, their father proudly states.

"Usually when you look at a lawyer who works in a firm where their father is a managing partner or a senior partner or a big shot in the firm, they kind of come in and think they're above the law, so to speak, and they don't have to work as hard as the other associates, and they get special hours because daddy's the boss and they can kind of take advantages, maybe talk to people in a little bit of a condescending tone when it's not

Continued on page 31



appropriate,” Lou Cairo says. “My kids have never done that.”

Even if coasting were an option at the firm — and it’s not, the younger Cairos have never taken advantage of that, their father proudly states.

Lou Cairo says his son and daughter embrace and practice the firm’s core values — hard work and respect for everyone involved in the process of helping injured clients.

“Everybody in this office, from the senior partners to the mail staff, get the same amount of respect from me and from my kids,” Lou Cairo says. “I would expect no less, and I would also allow no less.”

The two started as paralegals after college, at which point their father set the boundaries for how they should interact when he’s their boss and when he’s their father.

“I told them both exactly the same thing,” Lou Cairo says. “I said, ‘You’re my kid, so here’s the rule. You get to embarrass me or disrespect me one time, and then you’re fired.’”

Deanna Cairo planned to be an attorney all through high school and college, but was concerned after college that becoming a lawyer would mean the law becoming her life. She worked at the office as a paralegal for a few years before realizing that her childhood goal was still the correct one for her.

“I realized I don’t want to be the one just prepping the files, I wanted to be the one handling them,” she says. Lou Cairo is the son of a union construction company owner and the first in the family to go into law.

“My mother would say I had a quick tongue, my dad would say I was a smart mouth,” the elder Cairo recalls, laughing. “So they both told me when I was in grade school, ‘You should put that mouth to work. It’s going to get you into trouble. You become a lawyer, it’ll get you out of trouble.’”

He started at the firm in 1981 when there were five lawyers and one secretary. Today, there are 113 employees, 40 of whom are lawyers. In his time, Cairo has worked in every facet of the firm, from the mailroom to becoming the first named partner who wasn’t a founder.

He wants the next generation of Cairos to work in all parts of the firm as well.

“I think for me, just kind of starting from the bottom, working my way, really goes to show it’s really one big unit and you need everybody moving on the same cylinder,” he says.

Deanna credits that philosophy — and her time as a paralegal — with making her a better attorney. She never wants to be a lawyer who



doesn’t know how to write a request for records, for example, because that’s supposedly work that paralegals do.

“As a paralegal, you know you’re important and that the attorneys need you, but being the paralegal and becoming the attorney — the support staff are so valuable,” she says.

Her brother agrees. “It’s allowed me to understand the entire process,” Louis Anthony Cairo says. “I feel that some people who get thrown into a firm, it’s kind of a disservice to them because they don’t see how everything plays out.”

For the younger Louis Cairo, seeing his father in action helped set his path.

“I just remember being a little kid and always saying, ‘I want to grow up and do what my dad does because my dad gets to wear a suit and tie for a living,’” Louis Anthony Cairo says. “Now as I got older and graduated college, I wasn’t really sure what I wanted to do. I figured I was going to go into law or I was going to be an entrepreneur, go into sales, or do something. The real turning point for me was when I sat on, with my dad and Mike Fisher, another one of the partners here, a trial in Galena.

“For about a week, I was there with them, helped them out with all the technology and whatnot. I could not obviously do anything practicing-wise, but that was really what solidified me going into law. Seeing my dad work during a trial is amazing.”

That was in 2010. The behind-the-scenes look at the law — particularly a dramatic cross-examination where Lou Cairo made a witness admit to lying under oath — got the younger Cairo hooked. He started studying for the LSAT shortly after.

“It kind of sounds funny, but (the attraction

was) all the work that no one really sees when someone just walks in on a trial, that a plaintiff’s attorney has to do — watching my dad do an opening, do a closing,” Louis Anthony Cairo says. “What really got me was the cross-examination. I just thought that was absolutely unreal, something I was chomping at the bit to do myself.”

He says sharing his father’s name inspires him to work harder, not coast.

“I don’t want to disappoint my father, but most importantly, I don’t want to disappoint myself,” he says. “I try and do a lot of things like my dad, and one of the things is definitely work ethic. There’s no one that has a work ethic like my father, and I’m not just saying that because he’s my father. I don’t know if there are too many partners in businesses that stay at the office until 9:30 at night even when he’s been a partner for over 20 years. I don’t know of too many people who do that.”

One of the best parts of the relationship — both as a boss and as a father — comes at the union functions the Cairos attend. People Lou Cairo has worked with for years say hello and then ask about the whereabouts of Deanna, “L2” or their sister Kristina, who did not go into law.

“Over 30 years, we’ve built the firm to where it’s at on all these relationships, the majority of which are union relationships,” Lou Cairo says, smiling. “These people are now walking past me to get to my kids to say hello, which bodes well for the future of the firm.”

[Lou Cairo adds: As you can imagine, I’m quite proud to share this article about me and my two lawyer children. I’m a proud papa and these are two of the 3 reasons why.

Without YOU, this wouldn’t be possible, Leonard. Thanks so much.

Tassone's IAPC Lifetime Achievement Award Speech

Let me thank all the Political Leaders, the Judge Anthony Iosco and Judge Lisa Marino, my family, and friends for being here tonight. Congratulations to JoAnn Serpico recipient of the PACA Award and Joseph Mancino recipient of the Public Service Award. Congratulations.

To the members of the Italian American Political Coalition on behalf of this audience and myself thank you for your time and efforts in evaluating and endorsing political candidates. I know everyone here tonight will agree with me it is important to our community and young leaders of today that we support the Italian American Political Coalition. We must continue to inform and remind the younger generations of the struggles of the first generation of Italian Americans.

We have two Italian Americans on the Supreme Court: Justice Scalia and Alito. And we have a number of Italian American national and local political leaders. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have an Italian American in the White House.

Life time achievement award. Wow!!! I am over whelmed. Life time achievement award. I never saw this coming. Richard Pelligrino called me while I was in Florida. On March 20th what are you doing? I said I will be in Chicago. He said great the Italian American Political Coalition would like to honor you with a Life Time achievement Award. I was surprise, over whelmed and shock. Richard, thank you for nominating me for this honor. And the Board for approving his nomination.

Earlier this evening I overheard my sister-in-laws saying do you know what George Clooney and Bruno have in common besides having beautiful wives. They both received a Life Time Achievement Award in the same year. Sister in laws is that all I have in common with George Clooney? They were right about having a beautiful wife. And, Richard isn't this award a bit early? The internet said I have another 20 or 30 years to live, unless you know something the internet doesn't.

Seriously, it is a indeed humbling and a great pleasure to be honored by your peers and colleagues tonight. On behalf of my family, friends and mentors who have supported me throughout my career I share this honor with you.

Until tonight, I thought my greatest life time achievement was a hole in one in Galeana. It was a par three one hundred and twenty five yards. I was with my wife Cheri, my son Joe, my grandson Nicholas Bruno; and



Hon. Bruno Tassone (left), Peter Silvestri and Richard Pellegrino (right)

granddaughter Mia Gabrielle. They are here tonight along with my Daughter-in-Law Kelly. My Granddaughter Lauren is here. Also, here tonight is my niece Jacqueline Mustari and her husband Russell. My nephew Tom and his wife Letitica. My niece and Goddaughter Alex Domain and my nephew Jake Martin. Let me introduce my sister-in-laws, Laurie and Roni, Lynne and her husband Bobby Pacente.

When Richard informed me that I was going to receive this award I began to reflect on my life. As with most of us, what we achieve in our later life is shaped by the events in our early life. These early events shaped our future. Parents play the first and most important step in our life. They worked hard and taught us what was right and wrong. Sometimes they resorted to more than words to keep us out of trouble. Their hard work, their encouragement and their input are the definitions of the successes we attained today. I was blessed to have parents who held education as a requisite for my twin Brother Tom, my sister LuAnne and myself. We made them proud when we graduated from DePaul University.

My good friend Dr. Rocco Caponigri and I have often questioned and marveled by the ways in which we have reached our achievements. Life time achievements happen one step at a time. These steps seem to happen one after the other, just like a block of dominoes falling. At the end of those dominoes is the Life Time Achievement Award. Please permit me to tell you about my block of falling dominoes. It began at DePaul University. At DePaul my first mentor was Jim Passarelli. At DePaul, Jim introduced to Paul Davies and Vic Faraci. Through Paul I met Jack Labrasca a member of the Italian American Political Coalition. Paul and Vic encouraged me to pledge Alpha Pi Delta fraternity. It was the Italian fraternity on campus. I pledge the fraternity with Dominic

Faraci. Years later Dominic, Michael Hennessy and I became my law partners. As the law firm grew, our partners included Jerry Cihak, Sam Bongiorno, and Appellate Court Judge Tom Rakowski, Judge John Laurie and Judge Jack McGury. His daughter is now a Judge. At one point Sam Bongiorno was Chairmen of the Industrial Commission. Jerry Cihak was elected Mayor of Indian Head Park and Michael Hennessy was general counsel for Chicago Park District. Let me not forget Ed Maloney a lawyer in our firm who is currently

on the bench. And, of course, State Representative and now Mayor of Elmwood Park Skippy Saviano who was a paralegal in our office. It doesn't get any more political than that.

Dominic and Mike encouraged me to contact Leonard Amari with the Justinian Society. I remember the very first day I met Leonard. I remember that day well. His offices were at Two North LaSalle Street. We met and talked about the practice of law and the future of the Justinian Society. Michael Hennessy is here tonight. Thank you Michael for that sage advice. There at my first Justinian meeting I met Joe Bisceglia, Richard Caifano, Sam Tornatore, Jack Cerone, Michael Monico, Dom Fichera and Anthony Ferraro, Tony Fornelli to just name a few. Years later I met Umberto Davi, Judge Joseph Casciato and Judge Tony Iosco. In the legal community it doesn't get any better. All of those lawyers were my mentors. After that Justinian meeting Joe Bisaglia and I were joined together at the hip. We became so close his brothers Paul and Frank Joe himself often refer to me "Fratello" their older brother. That is an honor in and of itself. However, it has been a challenge being an older brother to Joe and Frank. Isn't that right Paul? They just don't listen. I love my younger brothers.

My relationship with Richard Pelligrino began at a Justinian Meeting in 1979. We immediately became good friends. Richard I want you to know how much I value our friendship. It is truly a privilege to be your friend and colleague. In 1982, my cousin Guy Maniscalco and Pat Santoro encouraged me to meet Alderman Frank Damato. I along with Trudy Zадja his administrative assistant covered his back.

In November of 1982 looking for a sponsor to support me to be appointed to the Bench, Alderman Frank Damato introduced me to Mayor Jane Byrne. Frank I will be eternally grateful for that introduction. Of equal importance in helping me with my appointment to

the Bench was Jack Cerone. I will be eternally grateful to you Jack.

Once on the bench I met Tony Romanucci who was a public defender in my court room. Years later Tony introduced me to Stephan Blandin of Romanucci and Blandin fame. Tony I will be always be grateful for accepting me as an associate and of counsel to your firm. Hopefully, one day I will introduce Antonio as Senator Romanucci or Ambassador Romanucci.

As a Judge, I reached out and met Dr. Vincent Pisani. Together we formulated the Theft Deterrent Program. A program for first time offenders. Dr. Pisani's program evaluates the seriousness of the problem and makes recommendations for remediation. That program is still being utilized by the court system after 32 years. Doctor I am very proud of the program.

My point is obvious it takes a village of family, friends and mentors that lead to a life time of achievements. I have been blessed to be surrounded with family and friends who mentor, supported and encouraged me in achieving this prestigious life time achievement award.

Members of the Italian American Political Coalition, may I suggest, when evaluating candidates for political office, look to the reputation of retired alderman and Cook County Commissioner Frank Damato as a standard for evaluating political candidates. The Honorable Frank Damato is a man of the values that I have been talking about. A man of integrity, hardworking and who has always put his people first in trying to improve their lives.

If I may, please permit me to say a few words about the generation before us. We are the sons and daughters of Italian immigrants. Our parents and grandparents help build this great nation America. They knew how to work, not work the system. They learned the language, and encouraged us to read it, write it and use it; not corrupt it. They worked hard, asked for little, kept us out of trouble and embraced a love of God, They taught us to build up not tear down. They had a clear vision. They knew the beauty of America. They knew America was a paradise of freedoms like no other country; diversity and massive opportunities to grow and help others to grow. The legacies of our parents of family; love, integrity and hard work have been passed on to us. And, we have lived up to the expectations of our parents.

Finally, Let's not forget our heritage. Let's not forget our legacy. Let's not forget what made us strong. The superglue that holds us together is compose of our values and culture. Let us pass it on to the younger generation. In the end, life's greatest achievement is to love and be loved. Thank you for this honor.

Elder Law Update

By: Anthony Ferraro

Afraid of Long Term Care Costs in the Middle Class? Seek Asset Protection Through Long Term Care Planning in Illinois, for Middle Class Seniors and Boomers



Problem: We recommend that our clients seek to purchase long term care insurance. But, what happens if it cannot be purchased either due to unaffordable costs or underwriting prohibitions?

Solution: Medicaid is the only federal governmental program that will pay for long-term care. This will require using some of your own funds in order to properly pay your way at a long term care facility, but if planned for properly, will not result in the use of all of your funds.

Therefore, in order to access the Medicaid program in Illinois, one must take some of the following steps in order to become eligible. Be aware, this is a very complex area of planning, but these initial steps should be an overview of what you need to do to begin the process. You would be wise to consult with an Illinois elder law attorney who focuses in this type of asset protection work.

1. Revise Powers of Attorney

First, revise any powers of attorney for property and health care that you currently have. Most of the powers of attorney that we see in our office, while valid, are inadequate to allow the necessary repositioning and reclassification of assets to gain eligibility to Medicaid, VA, and other governmental benefits.

2. Contact a Physician

If the senior has mental competency issues, then perhaps contacting a physician to determine whether or not s/he has the requisite mental capacity to execute new estate planning documents is essential. It is unethical to have a senior sign anything that they don't have the capability of understanding.

3. Seek Guardianship

This step is a last resort, but may be necessary in some cases, if no powers of attorney can be executed due to diminished mental capacity.

4. Revise Old Wills and Trusts

Revising old wills and trusts is also essential. Most wills and trusts are nothing but death plans. But, when you're looking to gain eligibility for Medicaid for long-term care,

the documents must reflect the authorization of handling long-term care planning matters rather than just distribution of assets and a death.

5. Create a Blueprint

The next step, which is useful to seniors, and the family members that are supporting them, (and boomers that are beginning to ponder the long-term care journey), is to create a blueprint. This blueprint will consist of breaking down considerations into life's 3 main phases: preplanning, wait-and-see planning, and crisis planning. Preplanning is done when there is plenty of time to plan, wait-and-see planning is done when there is a diagnosis, but you are not forced to leave home for long-term care, and crisis planning is when you must seek a higher level of care in an institutional facility of some type.

Quite often, after the blueprint is done and steps one through four are completed, there is nothing further to do until the situation becomes more escalated and a higher level of care may be needed by the senior or boomer, who may migrate to a crisis planning stage.

6. Inventory Assets

Assuming that we need a higher level of care, we need to continue the work done in steps one through five and take the next step, which is set up work necessary to inventory assets and get an understanding of asset ownership, beneficiary designations, and ability to convert to cash in order to pay for long-term care expenses, at least for some period of time.

7. Seek Placement in a Facility

The next step, assuming that a higher level of care is to be delivered, is to seek placement in a facility. There are many kinds of facilities, such as, independent living facilities, assisted living facilities, supportive living facilities, and nursing homes, and continuing care retirement communities (CCRC's). I am pleased to say that, for the most part, we see these business entities delivering good care to most of our seniors. Like any other business entity some of their business contracts are fair and others are unscrupulous. It is necessary for you to have a lawyer familiar with these types of contracts to be sure that, from a legal standpoint, whatever you are signing is acceptable. Remember, some of these contracts can require you to pay \$10,000 a month and may unnecessarily impose financial liability on children and other signers of these contracts.

8. Select a Strategy

The next task is to select a strategy which will allow the senior or boomer to legally and ethically reposition his or her asset(s). This opens up eligibility for the Medicaid benefit in Illinois without spending down to the paltry statutory level of \$2,000 of assets. Remem-

Continued on page 34

ber without further planning, Illinois expects you to rely on \$2,000 for the rest of your life. This is impossible because some of our seniors enter long-term care at the age of 67 and may remain in long-term care for the next 20 years. It would be nice to have more than a mere \$2,000 to buy the TVs, radios, bathrobes and slippers, hearing aids, and eyeglasses that make life more tolerable.

9. Prepare and File the Medicaid Application

The next step is to prepare and select a time, after the implementation of all asset protection strategies, to file the actual Medicaid application, which fully documents all transactions over the last 60 months. In some cases this can be very demanding task as some seniors lose documentation and forget about transactions and assets.

10. Prepare for the Post Application Audit

The next step is to prepare for the post application audit by the State of Illinois staff members and be ready to file an appeal in the event the state objects to anything you have presented in the application. Also be ready on an annual basis to respond to the state's request in what is called their annual redetermination process (REDE).

Summary:

I hope this gives you a simplistic view about how to qualify for Illinois Medicaid while using Medicaid asset protection strategies. Most clients are trying to preserve some assets and they are entitled to do so as a matter of exercising their civil rights as long as they do this legally and ethically.

This planning is not done by wealthy individuals, as they can pay their way through any costs associated with long-term care. Rather, this planning is best done by middle class individuals who have worked to accumulate some savings only to find that the cost of long-term care make their life's work disappear in no time.

Our goal, as asset protection attorneys for the middle class, is to allow seniors to gain access to the Medicaid program. Although this requires clients to use some of their own assets for their cost of long-term care, it also enables them to preserve some of their assets. Therefore, in their senior years, after a lifetime of work, they are entitled to some dignity and some resources to make a life in a nursing home more livable.

[Anthony B. Ferraro, is a JD, MS Tax, CPA, and owner of The Law Offices Of Anthony B. Ferraro, LLC, Attorneys & CPAs, The Elder Law, Estate & Trust And Asset Protection Law Firm, based in Rosemont, IL. You may contact him at (847) 292-1220 or visit his website at www.abferrarolaw.com.]

Debt Collectors Beware

By Joseph R. Marconi & Brian C. Langs
Johnson & Bell, Ltd., Chicago

*Neither a borrower
nor a lender be ...
- Shakespeare*



In *Suesz v. Med-1 Solutions, LLC*, 2014 U.S. App. LEXIS 12562 (7th Cir. 2014), the Seventh Circuit recently reinterpreted the venue provision of the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"). The issue for the court was whether township small claims courts in Marion County, Indiana (Indianapolis) constituted separate "judicial districts or similar legal entities" for purposes of section 1692i of the FDCPA. The en banc majority held that debt collectors must file collection actions in the "smallest geographic area that is relevant for determining venue in the court system in which the case is filed."

Implications for Cook County Lawyers
In doing so, the Seventh Circuit not only overruled its own 1996 precedent in *Newsom v. Friedman*, 76 F.3d 813 (7th Cir. 1996), but also applied the en banc *Suesz* decision retroactively. Debt collectors previously relied on *Newsom* to file collection actions in a court in the debtor's county—but not in the township or intra-county small claims court in the area where the debtor resided or where the debtor contract was signed. Per *Suesz*, for those of us in Cook County, collection lawsuits should be filed in the Municipal District where the debtor resides or where the contract was signed. For lawsuits that are already pending, an immediate motion to transfer to the appropriate Municipal District is most prudent.

Seventh Circuit Debt Collection Decision Will Be Applied Retroactively
In *Suesz*, a debt collector had filed a collection action against a debtor in the Pike Township of Marion County Small Claims Court, one of nine small claims courts in Marion County. The hospital which was trying to collect debt was located in Marion County. However, the debtor lived in Hancock County and the hospital was located in Lawrence Township, Marion County rather than Pike Township, Marion County. The debtor then filed suit alleging that the debt collector violated section 1692i of the FDCPA because the contract from which the debt arose was not signed in Pike Township and the debtor did

not live there either.

This retroactively applied decision may cause a real problem for debt collectors and debt collecting firms which had relied on *Newsom* as good law and filed collection actions in a debtor's home county or the county where the contract was signed, but failed to file in the debtor's township, municipal district, or other intra-county small claims court or intra-county small claims court where the contract was signed. Those concerned by this ruling should also pay close attention to the case which has been remanded back to the Southern District Court of Indiana (Case No. 1:12-cv-1517) where the debtor plaintiff is likely to again move for class certification.



Newsletter Staff:

Interested in becoming a staff member/contributor to our highly regarded semi-annual newsletter?

The only responsibility is to attend society functions and submit articles for publications, and maybe take photos of the event being attended.

Incoming President Jessica DePinto is in the process of making Justinian committee appointments.

This is a wonderful opportunity for networking, increasing one's persona in the legal community and have a head shot published with submissions.

If interested, contact the newsletter Editor Leonard F. Amari at lfa@amari-locallo.com or Associate Editor Katherine Amari O'Dell at kaa@amari-locallo.com.

Corporations Leaving America

By: Dominic Fichera

Recently, there have been discussions as to whether it is un-American for corporations such as Burger King to leave the United States for Canada where taxes are lower. These opinions run from Burger King being a traitor to them being smart for using tax code to their advantage.



We pride ourselves that the United States is a free country, so it follows that a corporation has the right to leave this country, if it wishes, for whatever reason. I have no argument with that premise.

What I don't agree with is that they are leaving their responsibilities with us; leaving their families and or property for us to protect. Protecting our people and property is very expensive. We, in this country, spend 680 billion dollars a year on our military budget; 4.4 percent of our GDP. This money is used to protect our citizens and property. When a person leaves the US for greener tax pastures he, she, or it should, in all fairness, also take with them their responsibilities, rather than leaving them for us to protect.

If you think that would be unreasonable or impractical you may be right, but to not do it would be unfair. Taking the benefits and leaving the deficits should not be the American way. If they can't take their property they should pay for the protection we afford their property.

It's interesting Burger King chose Canada to move to because their tax rates are lower. Why are Canada's tax rates lower? Is it because Canada only spends 22 billion a year on defense; 1.3 percent of their GDP, 22 billion to our 680 billion, and their land mass is greater than the United States? Is it because they don't worry about Russia, because if Russia decides to visit, Canada will invite the US to the party?

You get what you pay for, usually. These companies who want to avoid US taxes should pay for what they get.

Free Consultations and the Rules

By: Nicole Petrarca

Consumers are always on the hunt for the best deals, discounts, free services and products. Recognizing this fact, lawyers often seek to attract clients by offering "free consultations." What lawyers sometimes forget, however, is that this simple offer constitutes an advertisement and must comply with Illinois Rules 7.1 and 7.2 of Professional Conduct governing communications and advertising.



Attorneys may advertise in a variety of public media outlets, including social media such as Twitter and Facebook, so long as the communications are not false or misleading. Jason B. Lutz, Attorney Advertising and Disciplinary Action: Some Do's and Don'ts of Advertising, 25 J. Legal Prof. 183, 183 - 84 (2001); OH Adv. Op. 90-2 (1990), 1990 WL 640494. An attorney's social media post may also constitute a "communication" under the rules of professional conduct. CA Eth. Op. 2012-186 (2012), 2012WL 6859259 at *2 (holding that the attorney's post statement, "call me for a free consultation," on her Facebook profile page constituted a communication under California's Rule 1-400(A) on Advertising and Solicitation). Illinois Rule of Professional Conduct 7.1 states that "a communication is false or misleading if it contains a material misrepresentation of fact or law, or omits a fact necessary to make the statement considered as a whole not materially misleading." Free consultation advertisements that violate Rule 7.1 often contain an assertion or omission that misleads or has the tendency to mislead. Lutz at 183 - 84.

To avoid discipline for advertising free consultations, attorneys must: (1) not charge a fee for the consultation, (2) ensure that the free consultation is actually conducted by an attorney, and (3) specify any restrictions on the free consultation in the advertisement itself.

The Consultation Must Be Free

Disciplinary committees have held that charging a client for the time the client reasonably believed was included in the free consultation rendered the advertisement a misleading communication. Cincinnati Bar Ass'n v. Mezher and Espohl, 982 N.E.2d

657, 662 (Ohio 2012); In Re Pacior, 770 N.E.2d 273, 274 (Ind. 2002) (holding that the attorney's advertisement was misleading and deceptive, in violation of Rule 7.1(b), in promising "free initial consultations" and charging the client for the initial consultation). The Ohio Supreme Court recently disciplined an attorney who advertised "free consultations" but later billed the client for a portion of time during that initial meeting, because the attorney failed to tell the client that the firm began charging when "the client [had] agreed to representation and [had] signed a fee agreement." Dean R. Dietrich, Charging After A "Free Consultation," Wis. Lawyer, March 2013, at 39.

The Consultation Must Be Conducted By an Attorney

Those who respond to advertisements for a free consultation reasonably expect to have an attorney, not a member of the attorney's staff, provide legal advice or direction.

Disciplinary committees have held that providing "information to a person who is filling out a form does not constitute a consultation." In the Matter of Sekerez, 458 N.E.2d 229, 238 (Ind. 1984). It is not enough that a secretary meets with the prospective client and collects information or helps the prospective client fill out forms. Furthermore, attorneys have been disciplined for failing to (1) supervise law students to whom they delegated work and (2) retain "complete responsibility for the work product."

Limitations Must Be Clearly Stated

Consider this scenario: A woman sees you are advertising free consultations on your firm's website; however, the advertisement does not disclose any limits on the free consultation. The woman sets up an appointment to discuss her deceased mother's estate and trust. During the first 30 minutes of the appointment you review the will and trust and explain the probate process. The woman then agrees to hire your firm and signs your fee agreement. The woman asks that you get started right away, and you meet for an additional 40 minutes. Weeks later the client calls and asks for her documents back as she no longer wishes to retain your firm. Can you bill the client for your time during that first appointment? The answer is no, as your website advertised free consultations but did not include any limitations. Your failure to include these limitations would constitute a misleading communication. Cincinnati Bar Ass'n, 982 N.E.2d at 660

Continued on page 35

(finding that the firm's failure to state that "the free consultation ended when the prospective client ... hired the firm by signing a fee agreement" was inherently misleading).

Advertisements of free consultations should include all limitations on the consultation. Failure to do so constitutes a misleading communication. Under the Illinois Rule of Professional Conduct 1.5(b), attorneys must communicate "to their client, preferably in writing, the basis or rate of the fee and expenses for which the client will be responsible." Attorneys should clearly communicate at what point the free consultation ends and billing begins. In *People v. Pittam*, 889 P.2d 678, 679 (Colo. 1995), the court held that the attorney's failure to tell the client that there was a time limit on the free consultation constituted a misleading statement. This information should be stated in the advertisement and also be communicated to the client during the actual consultation.

Ads Must Follow Rules

Although promising free consultations can be a good way to get potential clients in the door, attorneys must comply with Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct 7.1 and 7.2 by ensuring that (1) a lawyer conducts the consultation, (2) the client is not charged for any part of the consultation that was advertised as "free," and (3) the client understands and accepts any time or other restrictions on the offer.

Newsletter Contributors:

- Dion Davi
- Anthony Ferraro
- Dominic Fichera
- Karalyn Jevaney
- Antonia Kopec
- Brian C. Langs
- Catherine R. Locallo
- Rachel E. Lutner
- Joseph R. Marconi
- James J. Morici, Jr.
- Colleen M. Redden
- Marie Sarantakis
- Cristina Mungai Scalzitti

Regulatory Changes to the Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act

By: Catherine R. Locallo
& Rachel E. Lutner



If not, you may not be alone. Without much fanfare, the Illinois Department of Labor ("IDOL") adopted new regulations which went into effect in August 2014, and significantly impact notice and record-keeping practices of employers, and broad-en enforcement by the IDOL. Here's what you need to know...

Written Notice of Rate of Pay Required

Illinois employers must give all employees notification of their rate of pay when they are hired and "whenever possible" this must be in writing. Whenever an employee's pay rate changes, the employer must also give the affected employee notice in writing "unless impossible."

Records Must Be Kept of Hours Worked By All Employees (Not Just Non-Exempt Employees)

Employee positions are classified as either "exempt" or "non-exempt." Non-exempt employees (e.g., secretaries, receptionists, cashiers, custodians) are entitled to overtime pay for hours worked over 40 in a workweek at a rate of time and one-half of their regular pay rate. Exempt employees (e.g., lawyers, accountants, teachers) are not entitled to overtime pay.

The amended regulations now require Illinois employers to track every employee's hours worked each day. This requirement

applies "regardless of an employee's status as . . . an exempt administrative, executive or professional." Prior to this regulation, neither Illinois nor federal law required employers to keep records of hours worked by exempt employees. Illinois employers must now create these records and keep them for all employees for at least 3 years. However, no penalty is identified for violating this directive.

The regulations state that the failure to maintain the records may impede an employer's ability to defend claims brought under the Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act ("IWPCA") by exempt employees asserting they are misclassified, perform nonexempt jobs, and are entitled to overtime pay. While the regulations are new, the IDOL's position in such cases has long been that, if the employer does not have records of the hours worked, the employee's statement about his/her hours prevails. The new regulations put this position into writing. This will likely have the greatest impact on positions for which the exempt classification is susceptible to challenge such as mid-level managerial jobs.

Employers Cannot Require Electronic Wage Payments

The new regulations clearly state that Illinois employers cannot require employees to accept payment via direct deposit or a payroll card, and moreover, give employees the right to demand wages via check or cash. Regardless of the payment method, the employer must provide employees with a written receipt each pay period showing hours worked, pay rate, overtime rate, overtime wages, gross wages, an itemization of deductions, and wages and deductions year to date. If wages are paid in cash, employees must sign a receipt indicating the payment date and amount received.

Written Consent Only Needed Once for Continuous Paycheck Deductions

Tort Notes

By: James J. Morici, Jr.

Where Plaintiff Was Sole Employee/Shareholder of Two Corporations and Her Labor Was Predominant Factor in Their Profits She Could Recover For Loss of Earning Capacity



In *Long v. Owens*, 2015 Ill.App. (4th) No. 140612, 4th Dist., held that evidence of the lost profits of a corporate entity are relevant to the determination of an individual's lost earning capacity in a personal injury matter. The Court held that this is so regardless of whether the corporation was a C-Corporation or a Subchapter S Corporation, and whether or not the Plaintiff received a salary or wages from the corporation where the corporation is closely held by the individual and the individual's intellectual and physical labor is the predominant factor in the earning of corporation's profits and no risk of double recovery exists.

In 2008, the Plaintiff was injured in an automobile collision when an intoxicated Defendant ran through a stop sign. Id. at p. 2. Prior to that time, she was self-employed for many years as the sole shareholder of two corporations which bought, sold and maintained cattle for profit. Id. Evidence was presented at trial through an expert witness and an accountant showed that the incident negatively affected the Plaintiff's cattle business, that she was unable to make decisions regarding the business due to her severe pain and that she was unable to perform the required motor vehicle driving to visit cattle feed lots and auction houses.

On the day of trial, the Defendant filed a motion seeking to bar any recovery by the Plaintiff for loss of earning capacity due to the fact that she never received a formal salary or bonus from either corporation. Testimony was that after 2008, Plaintiff ceased her work which had consumed approximately several hours per day on the phone, three to four times per week, and visits to distant feed lots seven or eight times per year. An expert witness testified that the Plaintiff lost the opportunity to make approximately \$200,000 per year in the years following the incident based on her pre-injury ownership of 3,000 to 4,000 head of cattle. Evidence showed that all of the profits realized by the two C-

Corporations through which the Plaintiff conducted her business, kept all profits as retained earnings, which according to her accountant, the Plaintiff treated as a 401(k), never taking a salary or making withdrawals. Id. at p. 4-5. The court granted the motion and barred the evidence.

In reversing and remanding the Court distinguished its earlier holding in *Sezonow v. Wagner*, 274 Ill.App.3d 511, 654 N.E.2d, 252 (2nd Dist. 1995), which had held that "Plaintiffs can recover only that money which they personally would have received from the corporation, i.e., the earnings or wages lost." at 514, 654 N.E.2d at 255. The Long Court held that the fact that the Plaintiff never received a salary or wage from the corporations did not bar the jury from considering her claim for lost earning capacity.

The Court, citing *Robinson v. Greeley and Hansen*, 114 Ill.App.3d, 720, 726, 449 N.E.2d 250, 254 (2nd Dist, 1983) said that "damages should be estimated on the injured person's ability to earn money rather than what he actually earned before the injury and the difference in actual earnings of Plaintiff before and after the injury does not constitute the measure." The Court noted that the Plaintiff's actual pre- and post-injury earnings are irrelevant to the measure of damages, but "may be helpful to a jury in its determination of the impairment of the ability to earn." Long at p. 10.

The rationale of the Court rested largely on its reliance on Comment C to Section 924 of the Restatement of Torts 2d (1979) which provides "if his services, rather than the capital invested or the services of others, were the predominant factor in producing the profits, evidence of the diminution of profits from the business will be received as bearing on his loss of earning capacity."

Accordingly, the Court held that the diminution in the corporation's profits were relevant to the jury's determination of the Plaintiff's lost earning capacity and that the fact the Plaintiff failed to present evidence that she personally lost income in the form of salary or bonus from the cattle feeding operation was of no consequence. The Court specifically wrote that "to the extent *Sezonow* now holds otherwise, we decline to follow the holding of that case." Long at p. 12.

[About the Author: James J. Morici, Jr. is a partner in the firm of MORICI, FIGLIOLI & ASSOCIATES, and represents Plaintiffs in personal injury, workers' compensation, and construction site related injury suits. Read all prior issues of "Tort Notes" at www.MFA-Law.com.]

When a paycheck deduction is to continue over a period of time, written employee consent is only needed once, provided the written agreement specifies the collection period and the same deduction amount is collected each time.

Payment of Final Wages Must Include Expense Reimbursement

An Illinois employer must pay an employee's final compensation at the time of separation, if possible, or by the next regularly scheduled payday. The amendments now require that final compensation include expense reimbursement for "expenses incurred (by an employee) related to services performed for the employer."

New Enforcement of Employment "Agreements"

IDOL will now enforce claims based on "agreements" between employers and employees, regardless of whether these agreements are in writing. "Agreements" will be construed widely as "broader than a contract." Moreover, "an exchange of promises or any exchange is not required for an agreement to be in effect," and one can exist without formalities and accompanying legal protections, such as past practice. The regulations state that "agreements" may be found in policies and handbooks in circumstances where mutual consent exists, regardless of the presence of a disclaimer.

The new regulations give the IDOL authority to enforce these new regulations by, among other things, "assisting" a class of employees alleging a violation of the IWPCA or retaliation for asserting such rights. Furthermore, an employer's failure to respond within 20 days to a wage claim now means that, on the 21st day, all of the employees' allegations are "deemed admitted as true." The regulations signal IDOL's intent to aggressively enforce IWPCA claims. Employers should assess whether they need to adopt new recordkeeping practices and respond promptly to any IDOL claims they receive.

Photo Stories



Many Justinians stopped by the Justinian headquarters to volunteer by stuffing invitation envelopes for the Installation & Awards dinner in September. Thank you!



Justice Anne Burke presides over the wedding of Bob Fioretti and Nicki Pecori. Congratulations to the happy couple!



Illinois Appellate Justice Ann B. Jorgensen (left) administers the oath to Elmhurst sole practitioner Elizabeth A. Pope as she becomes the new president of the DuPage chapter of the Justinian Society of Lawyers at the group's 38th annual installation of officers dinner on May 7 at Gibsons in Oak Brook.



Congratulations to Louis Cairo, Jr., upon being sworn in to the Illinois State Bar!



Judge Anna Demacopoulos swears in Karie Valentino as President of the JMLS Alumni Association.



Guess who, guess where?



John Marshall Law School student and Justinian Society Mentoring Group mentor, Karalyn Jevaney, was lucky enough to snap a photo with the Stanley Cup. Go Hawks!



Brother Fred Serpe writes to advise all his treatments are behind him and he is feeling wonderful. Pictured here with his inamorata, Ro Sorrentino, at a summer Italian American event.



Right: Grandma Giulia Gemmellaro shows off new granddaughter Brooke Joy Broadus.

Photo Stories



Left: Baby Luke James Haase was born on June 20, 2015. Congratulations to mom Jen (Pirok) Haase, dad Ken, big brother Kenny, and of course, Grandpa Ed Pirok.



Right: Congratulation to Michael and Julia Bonamarte upon the arrival of their first child, daughter Gabriella Grace. She was born on Monday, June 22, at 5:04 p.m., weighing in at 6 pounds, 8 ounces.



Left: Rob and Caroline Gamrath enjoy the beautiful weather during the recent ISBA weekend in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Right: Leonard Amari and Katherine Amari O'Dell show their support for President Karie Valentino and immediate past President Natasha Cuyler-Sherman.



Left: Guess who, guess where?

The Archives



Miscellanea

➤ Quarles & Brady LLP added **Patricia Spiccia** to the firm's tax-exempt organizations practice group. Spiccia handles joint ventures, lobbying and political activity of tax-exempt organizations. She previously externed at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP.



➤ Congratulations to the Cairo family! **Deanna Cairo Arthur** and **Barret Arthur**, daughter and son-in-law of prominent catastrophic injury attorney **Louis Cairo**, announce that they are expecting a baby boy in January.



The Cairo family, from left: Gloria, Deanna, and Louis

➤ Taft, Stettinius & Hollister announces new partners. Congratulations to **John M. Riccione**, complex commercial litigation and **William J. Serritella, Jr.**, banking and commercial litigation.

➤ Congratulations to **Dominick W. Savaiano**, upon his new position as Partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker.

➤ Congratulations to **Brian C. Cuttone** upon being elected partner, construction and commercial litigation, at Cassidy Schade.

➤ Reed, Smith LLP represented Chicago-based private equity firm New Harbor Capital in acquiring a majority interest in New York Kids Club. New York Kids Club provides early-childhood enrichment programs at 11 centers in the New York City area. Associate **Matthew Petrillo** assisted in leading the financing team.

➤ Congratulations to past President **John Sciacotta** upon his induction into the "40 Under Forty Hall of Fame" of the Law Bulletin Publishing Company. Of course, John is a highly respected and revered past president of our society and, among his many civic initiatives, John is the founder and former president of the Fenwick High School Bar Association as he tries to give back to his alma mater. He is the legal advisor and serves on the board of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce, Midwest Chapter and was the former director of Barrington Youth Baseball, Inc. Also, he recently joined the firm of Aronberg Goldgehn as a member. Mr. Sciacotta focuses his practice on litigation, arbitration and business counseling matters with a special emphasis on complex civil trial and appellate cases brought in federal and state courts throughout the country.



From left: Franco Coladipietro, John Sciacotta, Peter Silvestri, and Dom DiFrisco]

➤ Congratulations to **Joe DiBella** in his new position as the states attorney media spokesperson. Joe was promoted after a stellar record of winning 27 straight Jury trials. We look forward to seeing his staggering career develop as trial Attorney, serious crime division, for the people of Cook County.

➤ Congratulations to the **Michael Favia and family!** (photo below) Daughter Cristina Rose Favia has graduated from Lake Forest College with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies. She was also a member of Alpha Phi Sorority.



➤ **Angelo M. Russo**, partner at McGuire-Woods LLP, has been appointed as vice chair of the Business Torts and Civil RICO Committee in the American Bar Association's Section of Antitrust Law. Congratulations Angelo!

➤ **Daniel J. Cronin**, Chairman of the DuPage County Board, in conjunction with the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, and pursuant to the Regional Planning Act (70 ILCS 1707/15), has appointed **Mayor Franco Coladipietro** of Bloomingdale to serve as DuPage County representative on the board of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) for a four-year term to expire on July 1, 2019.

➤ Salvi, Schostok & Pritchard P.C. partner **Patrick A. Salvi II** was awarded the 2015 F. Scott Baldwin Award by the American Association for Justice at its annual convention in Montreal on July 11. Salvi handles cases concerning personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability. The F. Scott Baldwin Award is presented each year to a young trial lawyer in the U.S.

➤ Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth's My Hero Awards will be September 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Jenner & Block LLP, 353 N. Clark St., 45th Floor. **Brian T. Monico** of Burke, Wise, Morrissey, Kaveny is a co-chair. The My Hero Awards honor individuals and firms or corporations for their leadership and commitment to one-on-one mentoring of young people. For more information, visit www.lawyerslendahand.org.



From left: Bernie Rinella, Mike Monico, and Brian Monico

➤ Old friend, prominent lawyer and ethnic bar and community leader, **Louis G. Apostol**, executive director and general counsel for the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and Chicago attorney, was elected to the Northern Illinois University Alumni Association Board of Directors on June 6, 2015.

Continued on page 41

Mr. Apostol is the Chair of the NIU College of Law Board of Visitors and formerly served as Commissioner/Trial Judge on the Illinois Court of Claims and as Public Administrator of Cook County.



Louis Apostol

➤ God bless **Joseph Feinberg** for another substantial (!) annual contribution to our Endowment Fund. Not only is Joe a brilliant financial advisor, managing many millions of dollars for Illinois lawyer institutions, including the Illinois State Bar Association Mutual Insurance Company, some of our more prominent foundations, and eleemosynary entities, but he also shows up at our events where we welcome him with open arms and appreciate his participation. Thank you Joe!



From left: Antonio Romanucci, Joseph Feinberg, and Anthony Farace

➤ Congratulations to **Jim McCluskey** (don't call him Mike!) upon his resounding victory in the "down state" election for 3rd VP of the ISBA. The resounding victory is a clear indication of how well known and liked Jim is around the state. We welcome him as our new leader and also to the Board of the ISBA Mutual Insurance Company. Jim, of course, is a very active Justinian, rarely missing a Justinian meeting or one of our events, and is a good friend. We look forward to him following in the distinguished footsteps of his predecessors in that office, our pal **Vince Cornelius**, and our brother **Umberto Davi**.



Jim McCluskey, right, and John Locallo

➤ Congratulations to **Dion Davi** and the Davi Law Group, LLC for their continued growth. This August marked the 3rd anniversary since starting the firm. DLG welcomes two new associate attorneys: Sooha Ahmad and Justinian member Pierina "Rina" Infelise. Rina will be heading up the firm's Criminal Law Division as well as providing the firm with the ability to assist both Italian and Spanish speaking clients in both family and criminal law matters."

➤ Congratulations and best of luck to **Nico Davi (photo right)** as he competes in his first season of karting. Nico, 7 years old and the son of Dion and Kelly Davi, has already had a 1st place, and several 2nd and 3rd finishes. He is sponsored by The Racers Law Group, a division of Davi Law Group, LLC.



➤ Brinks, Gilson & Lione attorney **Jeffrey J. Catalano** presented at the American Bar Association's annual meeting on July 21, 2015, at the Intercontinental Chicago Magnificent Mile hotel. Catalano moderated the panel "The Shifting Economics of Patent Litigation," a discussion of recent legislative and judicial changes that have caused a fundamental shift in the way patent cases are litigated. Catalano litigates cases across all types of intellectual property – including patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets – primarily in U.S. District Court and at the International Trade Commission. A job well done, Jeffrey!

➤ **Christopher W. Niro**, a senior associate attorney at Niro, Haller & Niro, was appointed to the board of directors of the Illinois Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the Illinois State Bar Association. Congratulations Chris!

➤ **Carl A. Virgilio** was recently hired as a new associate for the Chicago law firm of Morici, Figlioli & Associates. Mr. Virgilio joined Morici, Figlioli & Associates as a law clerk in 2006 and has spent his entire legal career with the firm. He became an associate immediately after obtaining his law degree and was sworn into the Illinois State Bar on May 7, 2015.

Mr. Virgilio concentrates his practice of law in the areas of Workers' Compensation, Police Officer and Firefighter Disability Pension Claims, and claims arising under the Public Employee Disability Act (PEDA) and the Public Safety Employee Benefits Act (PSE-BA).

Mr. Virgilio earned his law degree from the Western Michigan University-Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he distinguished himself on the Dean's List. He earned his bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and is an alum of Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, Illinois. Mr. Virgilio was born and raised in Chicago and he and his wife currently reside in the city's northwest suburbs.

➤ **James J. Morici, Jr.**, managing partner of Morici, Figlioli & Associates, is acting as the co-Chair along with Manny Sanchez for the election campaign of Circuit Judge Rosana P. Fernandez. Judge Fernandez, a long-time Justinian, was appointed to the Circuit Court in January by Supreme Court Justice Mary Jane Theis. In making the appointment, Justice Theis noted that Judge Fernandez is the only Latino woman to have been appointed as a Circuit Judge in the history of the Cook County courts.

Judge Fernandez was instrumental during the 1990s in helping to reinvigorate the Justinian Society's Chicago-Kent College of Law Student Chapter. She went on to serve as a law clerk at Anesi, Ozmon, Rodin, Novak & Kohen. Later, she worked as an associate at the Chicago defense firm of Sanchez & Daniels before establishing a successful plaintiff's personal injury practice in 2000. She will appear on the ballot in the 2016 primary election.

➤ Congratulations to **Anthony B. Ferraro** upon being elected the President of the Illinois Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) for the year 2015.

➤ Johnson & Bell Ltd. shareholder **Joseph F. Spitzzeri** moderated a panel discussion, "Litigating Against the EEOC: Conciliation, Discovery Tactics and Limits," during the ALFA International 2015 labor and employment practice group seminar on July 24 in Park City, Utah.

➤ Congratulations to **Evan Davi**, son of Umberto & Jan, upon his graduation from Purdue University. Can we expect another Davi lawyer in the future?

Verdicts & Settlements

By: Michael F. Bonamarte

➤ Congratulations to **Stephan Blandin** of Romanucci & Blandin on a \$3 million medical malpractice settlement against a well-known Chicago area hospital. The case arose in June 2000 after a newborn's complicated delivery at a local area hospital required the infant's immediate transfer to the defendant facility. While seeking a greater level of necessary care that the defendant facility boasts that it provides, the infant suffered a stroke made worse due to the failure of the physicians and staff at the facility to properly monitor his glucose levels during a critical 24-hour period. The lawsuit alleged that the patient's physicians had failed to properly recognize and timely treat the minor who was at high risk for hypoglycemia, failed to properly communicate the need for frequent monitoring of the newborn's blood sugar levels, and they also had improperly decreased the minor's glucose infusion rate. The newborn sustained severed and permanent injury, pain, disability, disfigurement, and emotional stress as a result of the hospital's negligence.

➤ Congratulations to **Frank C. Marino** of Marino & Simonetti on a \$155,000.00 settlement in a personal injury case stemming from a motor vehicle accident in which the plaintiff was a passenger in a cab which was struck by the defendant's vehicle as the defendant executed a right turn on red. The plaintiff sustained a broken nose that required plastic surgery.

➤ Congratulations to **Michael D. Gallo** of C.T.A. Law Department on a not guilty verdict arising from personal injury lawsuit. The plaintiff alleged that she fell on a CTA bus when the bus began moving and suddenly lurched before she had time to sit. The plaintiff additionally alleged that the fall aggravated pre-existing spinal conditions. The defense argued that the bus moved in a smooth and gradual manner and that the driver of the bus gave the plaintiff enough time to secure herself. The defense also contended that the plaintiff slipped on a natural accumulation of water that other passengers has tracked into the bus.

➤ Congratulations to **Todd A. Smith** and **Joseph W. Balesteri** of Power, Rogers & Smith on a 7.5 million medical malpractice settlement. Following the delivery of twins, the patient had exhibited signs of lower ex-

tremity clotting and was high risk for DVT development. The facility failed to start therapeutic anticoagulation or perform a lower extremity venous Doppler. As a result, the patient suffered a fatal pulmonary embolism.

➤ Congratulations to **Thomas G. Siracusa** and **Joseph W. Balesteri** of Power, Rogers & Smith on a 23 million birth-related medical malpractice settlement. The settlement is a record in Illinois for a birth-related injury to a mother. On June 21, 2010, the plaintiff was admitted to Westlake Hospital in labor. Upon admission, blood testing performed on the plaintiff revealed a diagnosis of HELLP syndrome – a severe form of pre-eclampsia. HELLP syndrome commonly causes ruptured blood cells, elevated liver enzymes, and low platelet levels. Although the plaintiff delivered a healthy baby boy, she continued to experience periodic severe hypertension and her platelet levels fell to below normal. The following day, the plaintiff suffered a stroke and was subsequently transferred to Rush University Medical Center for surgery to relieve bleeding from the brain. Ultimately, the plaintiff was rendered a quadriplegic due to the brain damaged caused by the lack of oxygen. She is currently unable to speak and relies on a ventilator to breathe and can only eat using a feeding tube. The lawsuit alleged that the hospital's staff nurses and nursing supervisors failed to follow the chain of command to ensure that the plaintiff received the proper medical care required by failing to administer the proper doses of anti-hypertensive medication, as well as, failing to address the plaintiff's decreasing platelet levels. The settlement will allow the plaintiff to receive 24-hour care and regular physical therapy sessions.

➤ Congratulations to **Stephen D. Phillips** of Phillips Law Offices for a 10 million medical malpractice settlement. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of a 32 year-old man who was admitted to the emergency room with complaints of severe back pain and weakness in his legs. Due to the 10 day delay in surgery from the time he arrived to the hospital and the time a diagnosis was made and surgery performed, the man sustained paralysis from the stomach down.

➤ Congratulations to **Antonio M. Romanucci** of Romanucci & Blandin. Last week, a federal appeals court upheld a lower court jury verdict that Marion County Sheriff's Deputy Lauren Miley violated the civil rights of Joshua Salvato when she used exces-

sive force that resulted in the death of the unarmed 21-year-old. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit also denied Miley's appeal that she is entitled to qualified immunity against damages. This ruling paves the way for the family of Joshua Salvato who was shot and killed nearly three years ago to receive \$2.3 million in restitution.

➤ Congratulations to **Morici, Figlioli & Associates** attorney and **Justinian David J. Schwaner** on his recent verdict of \$355,000.00 in the Law Division Courtroom of the Honorable Judge Lorna E. Propes. The Jury deliberated for only forty minutes before returning the verdict. The award was in excess of the \$328,000.00 requested. Plaintiff, while installing a window, was injured when the scaffold he was provided to use by the Defendant, M&J Repair and Remodeling collapsed due to being overloaded. The Plaintiff sustained a neck and back sprain, mild carpal tunnel in his right hand plus an aggravation of his right elbow arthritis, a joint which was operated on twice in the past. The offer before trial was \$85,000.00.

➤ A \$1.2million settlement was obtained by **Morici, Figlioli & Associates** partner, **Mitchell B. Friedman**, on behalf of a Schaumburg office worker. The Plaintiff was injured while sitting at her desk when a portion of the ceiling's plaster fell striking her about the head and neck. Evidently, the sheeting materials had become weakened as a result of a water leak during construction on one of the floors above. The Plaintiff sustained a closed head injury as well as an unoperated herniated disc. The matter was settled in a pre-trial conference before the Honorable James P. Flannery, Jr., Presiding Judge of the Law Division.

➤ A \$900,000 settlement was obtained at Mediation before the Honorable Judge John A. Ward at ADR by past President **James J. Morici, Jr.** and **Morici, Figlioli & Associates** partner **Mitchell B. Friedman**. The award resulted from an injury to a Local 73 sheet metal worker who stumbled on debris sustaining an ankle injury while walking across a construction site floor to plug in a power tool. Plaintiff was unable to return back to his union job although he has obtained alternative employment as a maintenance worker at nearly the same wage.

Obituaries

† Edward H. Allegretti

We regret to inform you of the passing of Edward H. Allegretti, age 67. He was the loving husband of Angela (nee Vena) and father of Timi Allegretti. He was the dear brother of Jim (Linda) Allegretti, Jerry Allegretti, and Regina (Jim) Schmick.

† Domenico Coladipietro

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of past President Franco Coladipietro's father, Domenico Coladipietro. He was born in Caramanico Terme, Italy, immigrated to Canada and settled in Joliet, IL where he had



resided since 1960. He was the beloved husband of 52 years to Maria (nee D'Amico) Coladipietro, loving father of Marco (Lynn) Coladipietro, Franco (Amy) Coladipietro, and Carla (Domenico) Fronteddu. He was the proud and devoted Nonno to Michael and Marisa Coladipietro; Alyssa and Joseph Coladipietro; and Gianna Fronteddu.

† William L. Carter

We regret to inform you of the passing of William L. Carter, father of Melody Mitchell, friend of the Justinian Society.

† Frances L. Dickman

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Frances L. Dickman, Tony Turano's mother-in-law. She was 93 years old.

† Josephine Felice

We regret to inform you of the passing of Josephine Felice, mother of Judge Peter Felice.

† S. Joseph Formusa

We regret to inform you of the passing of Joe Formusa, age 83, dear husband of Melina. He graduated from Austin High School, University of Illinois and The John Marshall Law School in 1957 and practiced law in Chicago until he retired in 2011.

† Antone Gregorio

Our sincerest condolences to the family of Antone Gregorio, who passed away at the age of 92 on April 12, 2015. He was a proud World War II veteran and graduate of Sayre Grade School, Steinmetz High School, University of Iowa, and Chicago-Kent College of Law. Greg worked as a lead prosecutor for the Cook County State's Attorney Office before founding Gregorio & Associates. He served as president of the Justinian Society of Lawyers.

† Josephine B. Karkula

Josephine B. Karkula was the beloved wife of the late Col. Edwin Karkula and loving mother of the Honorable Judge Paul A. (Elizabeth) Karkula.

† Shirley M. Kiefer

Our condolences go out to the family of Shirley M. Kiefer. She is survived by her husband, Louis V. Kiefer and children Louis R. Kiefer, Christopher (Helen) Kiefer, and Elizabeth Kiefer.

† Margaret "Peg" Nocita

We regret to inform you of the passing of Margaret Nocita, mother of John Nocita.

† Mario Silvestri

Our condolences to Cook County Commissioner Peter Silvestri upon the passing of his father, Mario Silvestri, 94 years.

† Harrison, Sharon

Our dear friend, a wonderful lady, Sharon Harrison, wife of our brother Justice Mose, passed away, quietly and at peace. Remember her in your prayers.

She was a resident of Caseyville, Illinois, born October 31, 1938, in Ames, Iowa, and died Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at home surrounded by family.

Mrs. Harrison graduated from Iowa State University, in Ames, Iowa with a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education. She was a field home economist with the Pet Milk Company in St. Louis, Missouri where she appeared live on television and radio stations around the nation, wrote educational materials for schools, gave educational seminars for home economics departments of many colleges and universities, and did other promotional work for the company. During that time, she was active in the American Home Economics Association, Home Economists in Business, and American Women in Radio and Television. In 1962, she was featured in the magazine "Practical Home Economics" and appeared on the cover.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 51 years, Moses W. Harrison, II, whom she married in Collinsville, Ill. on December 30, 1961; her son, Luke W. Harrison; and her parents, Kenneth and Leonora, nee Cronin, Phillips.

Surviving are her son, Clarence W. Harrison and his wife, Carol; their daughters, Lauren and Rachel; and her grandchildren, Sarah and Jacob, and their mother, Mary Harrison; and many other nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.



Sharon was beloved by many. Here are just a few of the kind words that friends have shared when hearing about her passing:

• I am sad to read about Sharon's passing. I know you were close to her and shared wonderful times, memories and travels together. I am sorry for your loss. Sharon is at peace and now with Moses - her true love, life partner and companion...So many people loved Sharon, and she loved them back. She lived a full beautiful life and was a blessing on earth. She remains in our thoughts and prayers

- Celia and Rob Gamrath

• How sad; a very classy lady (and classy couple with Moses) who always had very nice things to say about everyone, no matter what. Jan and I had the honor of spending two days with them (and slept in their home overnight-Moses and Sharon were very hospitable) in the early 2000s, and it was an absolute pleasure to be with them. Moses had a neat sense of humor and Sharon smiled quietly when he would make a funny comment. I can still see her smile while she pretended to be busy doing something. May they both be reunited and rest in peace. Thank you Leonard for passing on the news.

- Umberto Davi

It's Between You and God - Mother Theresa

*People are often unreasonable,
Illogical and self-centered;
Forgive them anyway.
If you are kind,
People may accuse you of selfish
ulterior motives,
Be kind anyway.
If you are successful,
You will win some false friends
and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.
If you are honest and frank,
People may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.
What you spend years building,
Someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.
If you find serenity and happiness,
They may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.
The good you do today,
People will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.
Give the world the best you
have,
And it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've
got anyway.
You see, in the final analysis,
It is between you and God,
It was never between you and
them anyway.
Be Blessed.*



Don't Go Bare

Starting out? Moonlighting?
Part-time? Mediation only?
**Malpractice insurance is NOT
an unnecessary expense.**

- ▶ You're still at risk
- ▶ Your referral partners are at risk
- ▶ Your relationships are at risk

Protect your clients. Get covered with
ISBA Mutual...it's easier than you think.



ISBAMutual
Lawyers' Malpractice Insurance

800 473-4722 isbamutual.com

Upcoming Justinian Society Events:

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Installation Dinner - Palmer House Hilton, Chicago
Cocktails 5 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

Thursday, October 15, 2015

Scholarship Dinner - Holiday Inn Mart Plaza Hotel,
Chicago

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mass 5 pm at Our Lady of Pompeii Shrine, followed by
Past President's Dinner at Tufano's, Chicago

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Bocce Tournament and Dinner - Mazzini Verdi Club,
Franklin Pk

Thursday, March 17, 2016

Children's Endowment Fund Dinner - Quartino's, Chicago

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Nominations of Officers Dinner - Lux Bar, Chicago

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Installation of Officers - Gibson's Chicago

*Unless otherwise noted, cocktails are at 6 pm, followed by 7 pm.
dinner. For more information visit www.justinians.org*

Justinian Society of Lawyers
P.O. Box 3217
Oak Brook, IL 60522

Chartered October 21, 1921

