

NEW ROCHELLE BAR ASSOCIATION Newsletter

September 2015

www.nrbar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Dear Colleagues
and Friends;

I am honored to have been re-elected President of this great organization and excited about the upcoming year. It is my hope that, as a Bar, we will

continue to make even more strides to help our community, its residents and students, and the other organizations that play an important part in aiding the diverse members of our community.

Over the first year of my presidency we made our Bar's accomplishments better known to those inside and outside of our community. Our Lawyers in the Classroom Program was recognized by the NYS Bar Association and given an award for its innovation. More claimants from surrounding areas file in the New Rochelle Small Claims Court since it is kept from being backlogged by the generosity of our members who volunteer to act as arbitrators. Our Bar continued to provide scholarships in June to graduates from our local high school and colleges. And while not winning its division, the NRBA sponsored softball team is a winner to us.

With our new year under way, your Board of Directors is busy setting up interesting and informative programs and events for this year. We started this year with something different; a cocktail party bar night for our installation of officers and directors. The house was packed on September 10th when we met at Posto 22's side room to officially start the year with the swearing in ceremony by our friend, Hon. Daniel Angiolillo. We have already

secured the Fountainhead for our Holiday Gala on December 10, 2015 where we expect to have a fabulous cocktail party, buffet dinner, open bar throughout the evening and a DJ to play so we can dance the night away!

On the continuing education side, we already held our first CLE last week, on September 24th, at a new venue for us, the New Rochelle Public Library Ossie Davis Theatre. The informative class on "Reading a Title Report" was sponsored by TitleVest, with speaker Glen Chernick. Part II was on the "Electronic Filing of Title Conveyance Documents" with speaker John Allen, Esq. of the Westchester County Clerk's office. You will note that we will be holding our CLEs at different venues this season as Monroe College has a full classroom schedule this semester. Next month's CLE is our annual ethics class. It will be held on October 13th at sponsor TD Bank in Larchmont. The topic will be "Lawyering in the Technology Age" with speaker Kaylin Whittingham, Esq. Look for the flyer soon. Our November CLE will be on securities law with speaker Richard Finer, Esq. As always, these free to paid members CLEs also provide free suppers; truly a benefit and a savings to our members. We welcome your suggestions on both topics and speakers for upcoming CLE programs that may be of interest to you. You may contact Hon. Jeffrey Levin, the CLE Chair, or my office.

We are always looking for more ways to provide benefits to our members. It is my goal to broaden those benefits in the year to come. Thank you for your support and your trust. Here's to another great year!

Yours,
Paula Johnson Kelly

COMPREHENSIVE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEGISLATION PASSES BOTH HOUSES



by New York State Assembly Member Amy Paulin

The New York State Legislature continued its fight to end human trafficking by passing the Trafficking Victims Protection and Justice Act (A.506/S.7, "TVPJA") during the last legislative session. The bill awaits delivery to the Governor for signature.

The TVPJA will improve in several significant ways the State's response to human trafficking by enhancing protection of and assistance to trafficking victims and increasing the accountability of buyers and traffickers:

- Hold traffickers and buyers more accountable by:
 - Raising the penalty for sex trafficking from a class B felony to a class B violent felony and creating the new offense of aggravated labor trafficking, a class D violent felony offense;
 - Creating three felony sex offenses of aggravated patronizing a minor to conform the penalties for patronizing to those for statutory rape. Currently, an individual convicted of patronizing a minor for prostitution receives a lesser penalty than one

who rapes a minor of the same age. The exchange of money should not mitigate the magnitude of the offense of sexually assaulting a minor.;

- Aligning the ages of victims in each degree of patronizing a prostituted minor crimes with the age delineated in the corresponding degree of rape offense;
- Adding as a Class E felony the offense of patronizing a person for prostitution in a school zone.
- Strengthen investigative tools to make a case against traffickers by allowing law enforcement to obtain judicial warrants to conduct eavesdropping and video surveillance.
- Establish sex trafficking as an affirmative defense to prostitution. Providing an affirmative defense to prostitution where the defendant asserts that he or she is a victim of sex trafficking will prompt defense counsel to investigate such circumstances.
- Allow those who first come into contact with trafficked victims -- providers of social services and legal services -- to refer these victims for specialized services.
- Eliminate the term "prostitute" in the Penal Law, which stigmatizes defendants who are in fact victims of sex trafficking. The use of the term "prostitute" is the only instance in the Penal Law where an individual is identified by the crime he or she allegedly commits.
- Provide victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking a civil remedy to recover damages and reasonable attorney's fees from their traffickers.
- Require the Municipal Police Training Council, the state body responsible for basic training for newly appointed police officers, and the Superintendent of State Police to

develop, maintain and disseminate written policies and procedures relating to the identification of human trafficking victims and referral to appropriate social services and legal services, so that we can ensure increased awareness by law enforcement about the circumstances faced by trafficking victims.

Human trafficking is an astounding \$32 billion industry, with an estimated 4.5 million victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation globally, 98% of whom are women and girls (the International Labor Organization). According to Equality Now, trafficking women and children for sexual exploitation is the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world. Although many may believe that human trafficking occurs across borders or overseas, it happens in our own backyard. New York is a leading entry, transit and destination point for trafficking victims.

A part of the Governor's 10-point Women's Equality Agenda, the TVPJA passed both houses as an individual bill, as have eight other bills that were included in the WEA.



SMALL CLAIMS COURT

The last three court dates for Small Claims Court this year are October 21st, November 18th and December 16th. Any NRBA member who has been in practice for ten years or more and wishes to volunteer as an arbitrator should email the court at Lflorent@nycourts.gov and leave your contact information. These sessions are on Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

NIBBLES IN NEW RO

With the seasons changing and the more sedate pace of summer behind us, we thought we would share some downtown digs worthy of your culinary due diligence.

Roc-N-Ramen 914: When the cold starts to nip at your nose, consider getting a steaming bowl of ramen noodles at Roc-N-Ramen. Located at 19 Anderson Street near New Roc City, this cozy establishment serves a modern spin on the traditional Japanese noodle dish. Regular offerings include soups with a vegetable, pork bone, chicken, or even curry/jerk chicken base. Portions are generous, the dishes tasty and reasonably priced. For more info, check out: <http://rocramen914.com/>.

Starlite II Restaurant: The Starlite II Restaurant has the distinction of being the only diner located in downtown New Rochelle. Located at 519 Main Street, this small establishment offers a limited, basic menu at a good value. Of particular note are the assorted turkey offerings - the chefs at Starlite know their way around a bird. For more info, check out: <https://www.facebook.com/StarliteII>.

The Wooden Spoon: This recent addition to the downtown eating establishments straddles the spot between basic diner and higher end (and cost) restaurant. Opened by a fireman, the fare tends towards the heavier side but with a modern twist. Located at 16 Division Street, the roasted brussel sprouts are outstanding. For more info, check out: <http://www.woodenspoonnewro.com/>.

Korean BBQ Grill: This restaurant is over a year old and offers tasty, standard Korean food at very reasonable prices. For those unfamiliar with Korean food, the fare here is a good entry point since much of it is not as spicy as that found in other Korean

restaurants. Enjoying traditional bibimbap in the hot stone pot is both satisfying, and fun. Located at 496 Main Street, this small eatery is no frills but provides satisfying food. For more info, check out: <http://www.westchestermagazine.com/Blogs/Eat-Drink-Post/September-2014/New-Rochelle-Korean-Barbecue-Salad-Bar/>.

Patrias Restaurant: This restaurant offers a fusion of Spanish and Peruvian food. It offers tapas (small plates) and ceviches, both of which are well worth investigating. Located at 4 Lawton Street, the restaurant has a nice, open modern ambiance. Please note that they do not accept credit or debit cards. For more info, check out: <http://www.patriasrestaurant.com/>.

Little Mexican Café: This restaurant offers Mexican dishes at a decent price in a cheerful setting. The flan (a dessert custard) alone is worth a visit. Located at 581 Main Street, this jewel offers a decent selection of dishes, including the traditional menudo (beef tripe) soup. For more info, check out: <http://www.littlemexicancafe.com/>.

A Place 2 Go: This restaurant offers modern Jamaican cuisine in a slick, urban setting. Located at 273 North Avenue, this eatery offers tasty food accompanied by a hip vibe. For more info, check out: <http://www.aplace2gowestchester.com/main/>.

Coromandel Cuisine of India: This restaurant offers Indian cuisine at reasonable prices. The dishes are delectable, and a lunch buffet is offered every day. Located at 30 Division Street, this eatery is an ideal place to enjoy a great meal with friends and family. For more info, check out: <http://coromandelcuisine.com/new-rochelle/>.

Alvin and Friends: This restaurant offers contemporary Southern and Caribbean cuisine. Located at 14 Memorial Highway, it melds the sophistication of jazz with modern culinary

sensibilities. The cornbread mini-muffins and curry crab chowder alone are reasons to visit, while the house rum punch ensures that everything goes down smoothly. For more info, check out: <http://www.alvinandfriendsrestaurant.com/>.

El Tesoro Restaurant No. 3: This restaurant offers Salvadoran and Guatemalan cuisine in a "home cooked" style. Located at 615 Main Street, the Salvadoran pupusas (stuffed corn tortillas) are addictive, and the fare in general is hearty and very reasonably priced. For more info, check out: http://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g48246-d8567405-Reviews-El_Tesoro_Restaurant_3-New_Rochelle_New_York.html.

Dubrovnik Restaurant: This restaurant offers Croatian cuisine. Located at 721 Main Street, this locale combines a neat, nautical style with exquisite fare. Worth ordering in advance is the "Lamb under the Bell," though their seafood offerings are very good. The quality of the food is first rate, and the decor and ambiance make it suitable for a casual lunch or romantic dinner. For more info, check out: <http://www.dubrovnikny.com/>.



CLE NEWS

The NRBA 2015/2016 CLE season started on September 24, 2015 at the New Rochelle Public Library in the Ossie Davis Theater with a presentation generously sponsored by TitleVest, a Westchester and New York State title agency with an office in White Plains located at 235 Mamaroneck Avenue. Christine Gagliardi, who attended the CLE, is the Managing Director for Business Development servicing the NRBA and can be contacted at Christine.gagliardi@titlevest.com. Glenn Chernick, the Vice President and Senior Underwriting Counsel at TitleVest, presented a program on “Reading a Title Report”. Mr. Chernick’s responsibilities at TitleVest include responding to clients’ legal, real estate and title-related issues.

The second part of the program was a step by step demonstration of the “Electronic Preparation of Title Conveyance Documents”. The speakers from the Westchester County Clerk’s Office were the Deputy County Clerk, John Allen, Esq. and Margaret Crawford.

On October 13, 2015 a program for 2 CLE ethics credits will be presented by Kaylin L. Whittingham, Esq. entitled, “Lawyering in the Technology Age – Ethical Pitfalls To Avoid”. TD Bank is the sponsor and the CLE will be held at the TB Bank branch located in Larchmont at 107 Chatsworth Avenue.

The November 17, 2015 program entitled “SEC Law 101” will be presented by Richard Feiner, Esq. Richard Feiner is an NRBA member with the law firm Silverman, Shin, Byrne & Gilchrest. His area of practice and expertise includes securities law, securities transactions, mergers and acquisitions.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CLEs:

The NRBA will be offering the following CLE programs:

1. *Lawyering in the Technology Age-Ethical Pitfalls to Avoid*, October 13, 2015, by Kaylin Whittingham, Esq., at TD Bank, 107 Chatsworth Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538;
2. *SEC Law 101*, November 17, 2015 by Richard Feiner, Esq, location to be determined.

Expect to receive advance notices with particulars by e-mail of these and future CLEs. Information will also be posted at www.nrbar.org.

UPCOMING CLES:

For information on and reservations for our CLEs, or suggestions for future CLE topics, please contact **Jeffrey L. Levin, Esq.** at jeffrey.levin.law@gmail.com



THE NRBA INSTALLATION RECEPTION

The New Rochelle Bar Association started this term with its annual Installation Reception on September 10, 2015 at Posto 22 in New Rochelle. The Honorable Daniel D. Angiolillo swore in the Officers: Paula Johnson Kelly (President), Hon. Jeffrey Levin (Vice President), Laurie J. Korngold (Secretary), Patricia A. Bave (Treasurer), and Directors: Lori A. Corini, Frank P. DiMarco, John S. Economou, John A. Giacobbe, Mark P. Griffin, Andrew Spatz, Michele M. Tombini, Richard Weiss

and Ronald Zezima. The new format provided additional opportunities to catch up with old friends and establish new professional relationships while enjoying Posto's tasty offerings in a sophisticated surrounding.



Board Directors Ronald Zezima, Lori Corini, John Economou, Michele Tombini, Mark Griffin and Frank DiMarco.



Board Directors Richard Wess, Ronald Zezima, Lori Corini, John Economou, Michele Tombini, Mark Griffin and Frank DiMarco to being sworn in. by the Honorable Daniel D. Angiolillo.



President Paula Johnson-Kelly being sworn in by the Honorable Daniel D. Angiolillo.



Vice President Hon. Jeffrey Levin, Treasurer Patricia Bave, and Secretary Laurie Korngold being sworn in

UPCOMING DINNERS

The annual NRBA Holiday Party will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at the Fountainhead, 55 Quaker Ridge Road, New Rochelle, NY 10804. Details will be sent via email and posted on the website.

MEMBER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Captain Michael Levin, a Judge Advocate, serving with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team (Rakkasans), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), US Army at Forward Operating Base Fenty in Jalalabad, Afghanistan received the Bronze Star for Merit. He was awarded for his service with the Afghan national and local police, the courts, judges and prosecutors in Nangarhar Province. His team's mission was to establish the foundations of the rule of law in Nangarhar Province and Jalalabad pursuant to the Afghan Constitution and Afghan legal customs. Included in the team's accomplishments were the hiring and training of women attorneys as prosecutors. Captain Levin is completing his nine month deployment and will be returning to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, the home of the 101st Airborne Division, in mid-October. He is a graduate of Hofstra University's School of Law, and the son of NRBA Vice President Hon. Jeffrey Levin.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Andrew Buder, Esq.
John M. Sullivan, Esq.



PAYMENT METHODS UPDATE

Membership dues and reservations for NRBA events may now be paid on the NRBA's website (<http://www.nrbar.org/>) via PayPal.

OUR WEBSITE: www.nrbar.org

With our website members can obtain information concerning our Bar, its activities, and general legal and community news. We welcome feedback. This Newsletter can be downloaded from our website. Thanks for helping keep NRBA green.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

For an up-to-date listing of scheduled events, including CLEs and dinner meetings, kindly view existing event postings on our website: www.nrbar.org.

For reservations for any of our upcoming dinners or events please contact Treasurer **Patricia Bave, Esq.**, 145 Huguenot St., Suite 402, New Rochelle, NY 10801, (914) 633-7400 or visit our website www.nrbar.org.

Getting Published

We welcome your submissions! All submissions should be sent to **Mark Griffin**, Editor, at mark.griffin@gmail.com. Please mark the subject as NRBA news. Articles between 500 to 1200 words should be sent in Word format. Photographs should be sent as jpeg attachments. Authors should include a short biographical statement with their articles, which must be spell checked, cite checked and in blue book form. Opinions expressed in any article printed in the NRBA newsletter are solely those of the author(s) and are not positions taken by the NRBA. Materials submitted allow NRBA limited copyright and full permission to reprint the article in the NRBA newsletter without additional consent.

