



# Monroe County Brief

Published for the Monroe County Bar Association

December 1, 2011

Volume 16 Issue 4

## President's Message:

It has been my pleasure serving as your President and an honor to represent the members and interests of our Bar Association. I appreciate the support and assistance everyone has provided this past year and throughout the time that I have been a member of the Executive Committee. I especially thank Susan, Lesleigh, and Rosalie for their hard work each day to make our jobs easier and more fulfilling.

There has been a lot of activity in the Bar Association this past year, and a new Executive Director will be leading the Association for the first time. I encourage you to take a moment to meet with Denise Burdge, the new Executive Director, and wish her well. I believe the Association is in good hands.

As the holidays draw near, I wish you and your families a safe and joyous holiday season.

Thank you again.

*David J. Williamson*

## LEAVING BEHIND LEGACIES

### PRESIDENT JUDGE RONALD E. VICAN

Monroe County President Judge, the Honorable Ronald E. Vican was surrounded by colleagues, friends and family as the Monroe County Bar Association hosted a dinner in his honor on November 18, 2011. The event was held at Terra View, Stroudsmoor.

President Judge Vican was sworn in as Judge in 1981, and was commissioned as President Judge in 1994. He celebrated 30 years on the bench in 2011, and has been the longest service judge in the history of Monroe County. (Continued on Page 2)



### JUDGE LINDA WALLACH MILLER

On December 31, 2011, the Honorable Linda Wallach Miller will retire from the Monroe County Court of Common Pleas. On October 14, 2011 colleagues, friends and family celebrated Judge Miller and her long career in Monroe County at a dinner in her honor at Stroudsmoor's Country Inn Ridecrest.

Judge Miller holds many distinctions including being elected in 1991 as Monroe County's first women judge, serving as the first woman Monroe County Assistant District Attorney, as well as MCBA's first woman President in 1983 and 1984. (Continued on Page 2)

**President Judge Ronald E. Vican**

(Continued from Page 1)

In addition to his distinguished legal career, President Judge Vican served in the United States Army Military Police Corps and was honorably discharged in 1990 with the rank of Captain.

As his time on the bench comes to a close, President Judge Vican has begun to make plans for his retirement. These plans include spending time with his wife, Joan, and their children and grandchildren. And, of course, we are all sure that Judge Vican will pass his time on the water as well.

The MCBA extends our gratitude and well wishes for a healthy and happy retirement and thanks Judge Vican for being an inspiration to us all.

**Judge Linda Wallach Miller**

(Continued from Page 1)

Judge Miller and her husband retired District Judge Charles Eyer plan on spending time with their daughters and traveling. She plans on expanding her community involvement and serving as a Senior Judge presiding over cases on an as-needed basis.

We wish to thank Judge Miller for her support of our community, her years of service and the trail that she has blazed for future generations.

**Susan Kenny**  
**Long Time Executive Director Retires**



After 18 years of service to the Monroe County Bar Association, Susan Kenny has retired to enjoy the warmer climate of the south. Susan began her career with our association as a part-time secretary, advancing to our first Executive Director. Her commitment allowed the MCBA to grow to the strong and successful organization that we are today. Major accomplishments include oversight of the purchase and renovation of our bar center, the creation of Monroe County Bar Foundation, the development and ongoing professional and community programs such as the Bench Bar Conference, Mock Trials, and our extensive Lunch & Learn programs. The Monroe County Bar Association would like to wish Susan and her family, Steve, Krissy and Katie much health and happiness in their newest adventure. Thank you and good luck.

On October 31, 2011, the Monroe County Bar Association welcomed new Executive Director Denise M. Burdge. Denise brings professional management and community leadership experience through retail and commercial banking, twenty years of community volunteerism, and her work as a business and management consultant.

Denise has held various positions with regional banks including Regional Vice President for KNBT, and Human Resources and Branch Administrator for Pocono Community Bank/First Keystone Community Bank.

Denise has led several volunteer organizations including: Chairman of the Board for the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce in 2007-2008 and past President of the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs. She has served in leadership roles for the Pocono Builders Association, Monroe County Historical Association, Pocono Family YMCA and Leadership Pocono.

Recognitions include the 2001 Athena Award presented by Grey Chevrolet and the Greater Pocono Chamber of Commerce and the 1994 Associate of the Year for the Pocono Builders Association.

Denise attended Keystone College and Wilkes University and is a 1999 graduate of Leadership Pocono. Denise and her husband, Jeff, reside in Mount Pocono. They are the parents of daughter Jessica and son-in-law Walid Elhatw, and sons Jeffrey, Bryan and Adam. They also have two granddaughters, Eliyah Johnson and Maya Elhatw.



## Upcoming PBI CLE Programs

The following PBI seminars have been scheduled and will be held at the MONROE COUNTY BAR CENTER, 913 MAIN STREET, STROUDSBURG, PA.

To register call the Pennsylvania Bar Institute at 800-932-4637. Early Reg fees are available.

### Thursday, December 1, 2011-Groupcast

#### Elder Law Update

3 hours substantive/0 hour ethics  
9:00 am to 12:15 pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 am  
Members \$254/Nonmembers \$274

### Friday, December 2, 2011-Video

#### Real Estate Issues in Estates

4 hours substantive/0 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$129/Nonmembers \$149

### Wednesday, December 7, 2011-Groupcast

#### Ideal Gas Law: A Comparative Review of PA Gas Law with the Laws of Other Major Oil Producing States

6 hours substantive/0 hour ethics  
9:00 am to 4:30 pm (includes lunch)  
Reg begins at 8:30 am  
Members \$324/Nonmembers \$344

### Thursday, December 15, 2011-Groupcast

#### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Auto Law Update

3 hours substantive/1 hour ethics integrated  
12:45 am to 5:00 pm (includes lunch)  
Reg begins at 12:15 pm  
Members \$254/Nonmembers \$274

### Friday, December 16, 2011-Groupcast

#### Criminal Law Update

4 hours substantive/0 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:15 pm (includes lunch)  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$274/Nonmembers \$294

### Monday, December 19, 2011-Video

#### Law Firm Responsibilities and Recovery

0 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$49/Non members \$59

### Tuesday, December 20, 2011-Groupcast

#### Making Sense of Medicare

4 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
12:30 pm to 4:45 pm (includes lunch)  
Reg begins at 12:00 pm  
Members \$254/Nonmembers \$274

### Wednesday, December 21, 2011- Groupcast

#### PA's New Joint & Several Liability Law

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
9:00 am to 12:15 pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 am  
Members \$254/Nonmembers \$274

### Wednesday, December 28, 2011-Video

#### Using Trusts and Insurance for Asset Protection

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.  
Reg begins at 12:30 am  
Members \$129/Non members \$149

### Thursday, February 2, 2012-Video

#### Advanced Issues before the DVA

3 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$129/Nonmembers \$149

### Wednesday, February 22, 2012-Video

#### Joint and Several Liability

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$129/Nonmembers \$149

### Tuesday, March 6, 2012-Video

#### Navigating the Rising Tide of Retaliation Claims

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:30pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$129/Non members \$149

### Tuesday, March 13, 2012-Groupcast

#### Fundamentals of Estate Planning

5 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
9:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 am (includes lunch)  
Members \$254/Nonmembers \$274

### Friday, March 16, 2012-Video

#### Claims Made & Professional Liability Insurance Coverage

2 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30  
Members \$129/Nonmembers \$149

### Monday, March 19, 2012-Groupcast

#### Residential Agreement of Sale

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
12:30 pm to 3:45 pm  
Reg begins at 12:00 pm (includes lunch)  
More information to follow

### Tuesday, March 20, 2012-Groupcast

#### Social Security Disability: The Basics

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
9:00 am to 1:15 pm  
Reg at 8:30 am  
More information to follow

### Friday, March 23, 2012-Groupcast

#### Vehicle Stops & Searches in PA

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics  
9:00 am to 12:15pm pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 am  
More information to follow

### Wednesday, March 28, 2012-Groupcast

#### 25th Annual Civil Litigation Update

5 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
9:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 (includes lunch)  
More information to follow

### Monday, April 2, 2012-Video

#### Bob Dylan and the Art of Taking Legal Ethics Seriously

0 hours substantive/1 hour ethics  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Reg begins at 11:30 am  
Members \$49/Nonmembers \$59

### Tuesday, April 10, 2012-Groupcast

#### Writing Better Complaints, Contracts, Discovery Request, Laws & Regulations

9:00 am to 12:15 pm  
Reg begins at 8:30 am (includes lunch)

AND

#### Surprisingly Useful Things Legal Writes Can Learn From Fiction

1:00 pm to 4:15 pm  
Reg begins at 12:30 (includes lunch)

6 hours substantive/0 hours ethics (Both)  
3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics (One)  
More information to follow



Front Row: Judge Robson, Judge Leavitt, Judge Cohn Jubelirer,  
Judge Pellegrini, Judge Simpson

Back Row: Judge Mark, Judge Sibum, President Judge Vican,  
PA President Judge Leadbetter, Judge Worthington

Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Judges  
visit Monroe County  
October 2011

On October 19 and 20, 2011, Monroe County welcomed the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

The Monroe County Bar Association hosted a reception at Lawnhaven, Stroudsmoor Country Inn the evening of October 19th for the Commonwealth Judges.

The following day oral arguments were heard by a panel of three judges. This was the first visit by the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania to Monroe County.

**Pleasant Valley High School and the  
Monroe County Bar Association  
host  
Mock Trial Invitational Tournament**

This year, ten teams from school districts throughout northeastern Pennsylvania participated in the November 19, 2011, Mock Trial Tournament.

The day began for most students with a bus trip from their home schools to Brodheadsville. Everyone was greeted warmly by Tournament Director, the Honorable Michael Muth. Each team had to present its case in two rounds representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and two rounds as the defendant. Students participated as attorneys and witnesses throughout the day. Their "performances" were judge by attorneys who volunteered their time to participate.

The trials began promptly at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm with the awards ceremony held at 4:30 pm. This year a new champion was crowned. East Stroudsburg High School South has participated since the mock trial program began and their hard work paid off this year. The winning team advisor is Paul Kern.

The event was attended by over 90 students and advisors, 20 judges and many family and friends.

Participating schools included: East Stroudsburg High School-South, MMI Preparatory School, Notre Dame Senior High School, Pleasant Valley High School, Pocono Mountain East High School, Stroudsburg Area High School, Valley View High School, Wallenpaupack Area High School and Hazleton Area High School.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks were provided by WaWa of Brodheadsville, Pleasant Valley School District and MCBA.



## Upcoming Events

### 17<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

December 6, 2011 12:00pm to 6:00pm  
Stroudsburg Wesleyan Church  
§NOTE LOCATION CHANGE§



### Lunch & Learn

“Winning a Social Security Disability Case  
for a Claimant Under 50”

December 6, 2011 11:30am to 1:00 pm



“Relocation Under the New Pennsylvania  
Custody Law”

December 8, 2011 11:00am to 1:00pm



### Holiday Gathering

Mountain Springs Lake Resort  
December 10, 2011 7:00pm



### Swearing In Ceremony

December 12, 2011 3:00 pm  
Court Room One  
Monroe County Courthouse



Reception & Holiday Open House  
December 12, 2011 4:30pm to 6:30pm  
Monroe County Bar Center



### Judge Linda Wallach Miler

Portrait Hanging  
December 16, 2011 2:30 pm  
Court Room Four  
Reception to Follow



### General Membership Meeting

Sarah Street Grill  
January 18, 2012  
6:00 Friendship Hour—Cash Bar  
7:00 Dinner immediately followed by  
Membership Meeting  
\$35.00 Members / YLD \$17.50

## Lunch & Learn Seminar Series

December 6, 2011

### “Winning a Social Security Disability Case for a Claimant Under 50”

Presented by: Patrick J. Best, Esq.  
MHK, LLP (Merwine, Hanyon & Kaspszyk)

When applying for disability, a claimant who is less than 50 years old has a difficult case. This practical seminar focuses on different avenues you may explore in these cases as a Claimant’s Representative. More specifically, throughout the seminar we will identify limitations recognized by the Social Security Administration which will usually require a finding that a claimant is disabled, even if the claimant is less than 50 years old.

11:30 am Lite Deli-Style Lunch\*\*12:00 pm—1:00 pm Seminar  
Cost \$35.00 (Members) \$45.00 (Non-members)  
Monroe County Bar Center

You must be present for the entire Seminar to receive 1 Substantive CLE Credits.

December 8, 2011

### “Relocation Under the New Pennsylvania Custody Law”

Presented by: The Honorable Herlacher Sibum  
Jeffrey J. Kash, Esq., Kash & Fedrigo Law  
Todd Weitzmann, Esq., Scanlon, Lewis & Williamson

11:30 am Lite Deli-Style Lunch\*\*12:00 pm—1:00 pm Seminar  
Cost \$35.00 (Members) \$45.00 (Non-members)  
Monroe County Bar Center

You must be present for the entire Seminar to receive 1 Substantive CLE Credits.

## The Fifteenth Annual Bench Bar Conference Fernwood Resort and Conference Center

On September 30, 2011, the Monroe County Bar Association held the 15th Annual Bench Bar Conference. In addition to a full day of continuing legal education programs, the conference attendees celebrated the service of President Judge Ronald E. Vican and Judge Linda Wallace Miller, both who will retire December 31, 2011.

We welcomed guest speaker Matthew J. Crème, Jr., Esquire and President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Attorney updated everyone on the accomplishments for 2011 and expectations for the future.

President Judge Ronald E. Vican discussed the state of the Bench followed by a panel discussion with the Monroe County Judges including the Hon. Linda Wallace Miller, the Hon. Margherita Patti Worthington, the Hon. Arthur L. Zulick, the Hon. Jonathan Mark and the Hon. Jennifer Harlacher Sibum.

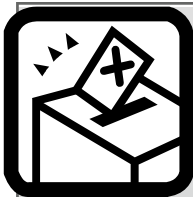
The Monroe County Bar Association would like to thank all of our participants, sponsors, exhibitors and advertisers.

# Membership Updates

Please check the MCBA website [www.monroebar.org](http://www.monroebar.org) for daily updates on membership information.

<b>New Members:</b>	<b>Address Changes:</b>
Louis "Michael" Miley Robert H. Nothstein Law Offices, P.C. 46 North Sixth Street Stroudsburg PA 18360 570.421.5130 570.421.7224 (Fax) louismichaelmiley@hotmail.com	Donald M. Leeth 729 Monroe Street Stroudsburg PA 18360 570.421.4483 570.796.0040 (Fax) dmleeth@hotmail.com
Brandon M. Benner Benner & Piperato 2005 City Line Rd., Suite 106 Bethlehem PA 18017 610.867.3900 610.867.9727 (Fax) brandon-benner11@gmail.com	
Frank J. Trovato Benner & Piperato 2005 City Line Rd., Suite 106 Bethlehem PA 18017 610.867.3900 610.867.9727 (Fax) fjtrovato@gmail.com	

Please forward your contact information changes to the MCBA office via email to [info2@monroebar.org](mailto:info2@monroebar.org) or via fax to 570-424-8234.



At the general membership meeting held on November 9, 2011, the following slate of 2012 officers and board members were nominated and voted on by the membership. Please congratulate the Monroe County Bar Association 2012 Officers and Board Members.

F. Andrew Wolf	President
Jane Roach Maughan	Vice President
Lori J. Cerato	Treasurer
Daniel P. Lyons	Secretary
Jeffrey A. Durney	Member at Large
Todd W. Weitzmann	Member at Large
YLD President To Be Announced	Member at Large

## 2011 Monroe County Bar Association Executive Board

David J. Williamson-President

F. Andrew Wolf, Vice-President

Jane Roach Maughan-Secretary

Lori J. Cerato-Treasurer

### Members at Large

Stephen M. Higgins-Immediate Past  
President

Todd W. Weitzmann

Jeffrey A. Durney

YLD President-Megan Reaser

### Upcoming Lunch & Learn Programs

#### December 6, 2011

Topic: "Social Security Disability"

Presented by: Patrick J. Best, Esq.

#### December 8, 2011

Topic: "Relocation Under the New Pennsylvania  
Custody Law"

Presented by:  
The Honorable Jennifer Harlacher Sibum  
Jeffrey J. Kash, Esq.  
Todd Weitzmann, Esq.

If you have any ideas on CLE programs  
Contact the MCBA staff at 570-424-7288 or via  
email at [info2@monroebar.org](mailto:info2@monroebar.org).

## YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

**Estate Lawyers Lunch—1st Wednesday**  
**Real Estate Attorneys Lunch—2nd Tuesday**  
**Municipal Law Lunch—3rd Wednesday**  
**Willowtree Inn, Noon-1:00pm**

## On a personal note..

Our condolences go to Victoria Wright on the passing of her grandmother.

If you have had an event in your personal or professional life that you would like to share with the members of the Monroe County Bar Association, please contact the MCBA office at 570-424-7288 or email to [info2@monroebar.org](mailto:info2@monroebar.org). We share birth notices, weddings, passings and professional accomplishments.

## Monroe County Bar Association

913 Main Street  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
570.424.7288  
Fax: 570.424.8234

### Staff

Denise M. Burdge, Executive Director  
[dburdge@monroebar.org](mailto:dburdge@monroebar.org)

Rosalie Richardson, Office Assistant  
[rrichardson2@monroebar.org](mailto:rrichardson2@monroebar.org)

Lesliegh Pope, Office Assistant  
[lpope2@monroebar.org](mailto:lpope2@monroebar.org)

Website: [www.monroebar.org](http://www.monroebar.org)

Monroe County Bar Association  
913 Main Street  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Know what you can find on the Monroe County Bar Association Website?  
This is what is under “Legal Links” at [www.monroebar.org](http://www.monroebar.org)

**Court of Common Pleas**

**Legal Organizations**

**PA & US Courts**

Argument List  
Court Calendar  
Civil Trial List  
Criminal Trial List

**Local Rules**

Actions in Domestic Relations  
Administrative Orders  
*New* Custody Law  
DUI Fast Track  
Orphan Court Rules  
Rules of Civil Procedure  
Forms  
*New* Petition for Expungement  
*New* Mortgage Foreclosure Program  
Title 210 –Appellate Procedure

County Bar Association  
County Bar Leader’s Directory  
North Penn Legal Services  
PA Bar Association  
Pennsylvania Bulletin  
PA Bar Legal Links  
PA Disciplinary Board  
PA Law Help  
State Bar Associations

PA General Assembly  
PA Unified Judicial System & AOPC  
State Courts  
U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Senate

**Civil Pretrial Conferences**

Hon. R.E. Vican, P.J.  
Hon. L. Wallach Miller  
Hon. M.P. Worthington  
Hon. A. L. Zulick  
Hon. J. Mark  
Hon. J. H. Sibus

**Other Links**

Monroe County Directory  
Monroe County Website  
Procedure for Admission to Monroe County Bar

**Fees and Schedules**

Domestic Relation Fees  
JCS/ATJ Filing Fees  
Prothonotary Fees  
Recorder’s Fee Schedule  
Register of Will  
    Fee Schedule  
Sheriff Fees

**Court Administration**

Foreign Language Interpreter Request Form  
Interpreter Request Information  
Judiciary  
Magisterial District Judges  
Sign Language Request Form