

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



'HELPERS'

By Michael J. Dennin

We have a very busy Bar Association here in Camden County. We are so busy because we have so many wonderful helpers. We have an

awesome staff comprised of Kara Edens (all-star executive director), Roseanne Riley, our superb CLE and event organizer, and equally awesome membership coordinator and event organizer Krystal Widman. We have a Foundation board and Association board that gives their time for free many times each month doing various activities. We have so many people who attend events, volunteer for charity services, speak at CLEs, mentor young lawyers, and work on committees. We have past presidents who are still very active. All of these people are helpers.

There are so many nice words I could use for all of the people who give their valuable time to help other people. We have a Young Lawyers Committee that is its own mini Bar Association. I do not even like to call it a "committee". When I think of the word "committee", I think of an entity that acts on occasion when needed and puts in spare time. Our Young Lawyers Committee does more on their own than most bar associations do. While I will not steal Mr. Keating's thunder, the young lawyers are planning and holding events left and right. They do not let up with their helping of other people. They help law students, fellow young lawyers, the less fortunate in our county, and along the way they are helping themselves.

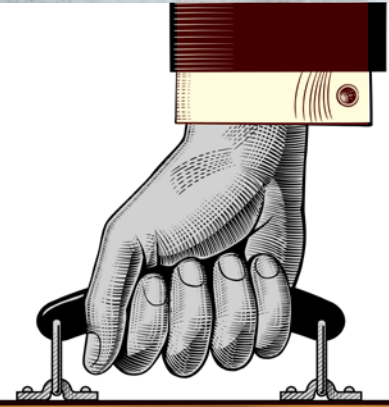
By helping others, you are helping yourself. Being a lawyer is stressful. Lawyers have a high rate of depression and suicide. Many lawyers do not know what is available to them through the Bar Association. If you need help, reach out to us. We can help. There are entities we deal with that provide counseling and help if you are struggling with depression or drugs. We as lawyers take so much of other people's anxieties and worries on our shoulders that it's

no wonder we are more prone to suffering. We at the Bar Association need your help in what we do. We need your help at CLEs, networking events, and charity events. We will help you understand what great things there are out there for you to do that will round you out as a lawyer and a person.

As a former young lawyer chair, I have seen our young bar and more seasoned bar at work for over 10 years now. I have seen how we lift each other up. How we are there for each other. How we want each other to succeed both in work and outside of work. I have made some of my closest lawyer friends through the Bar Association. I was scared at first to come to events. Mike Madden kept pushing me until I took the leap. I remember it was during a young lawyer softball game a long time ago that Mike told me to get more involved. I took the leap and have nothing but great things to say about our Association since then. While I got into the legal field to help other people, I did not realize that as lawyers we have a duty and opportunity to help people other than our clients.

Take one small example of an event at the Anna Sample House. Our Young Lawyers Committee throw Halloween and Easter parties at this women and family shelter in Camden. They hire a magician, order pizzas, buy candy, decorate, and even have some surprise superhero guests that show up (Tim Dalton thank you - we love you!). All on a Saturday morning to help children and the less fortunate. These families are able to take their minds off the negative things around them and thoroughly enjoy a party. Thank you to the Becker family for making the cakes that everyone loves.

Do not be scared this Halloween season. Instead, become a helper. Fill in the parts of your life that are missing. We welcome you with open arms and want to help you. You can help. You want to help. Just do it. Come help us and I promise you that your life will start to fill in.



LEGAL BRIEFS

Charny Karpousis Altieri & Donoian, P.A. partner **Nicole Donoian-Pody** has been appointed to the New Jersey District IV Fee Arbitration Panel - Camden and Gloucester Counties for a four-year term (2019-2023). The committee, which is entirely volunteer-based, is governed by the Office of Attorney Ethics and aims to maintain the highest level of legal professionalism. This includes reinforcing applicable Rules of Professional Conduct and Court Rules, preparing proper responses to Fee Arbitration complaints and providing effective hearing participation as to legal fee disputes. As a seasoned member of the District IV Fee Arbitration Panel, this will be the third term for Ms. Donoian-Pody. She previously served and has been and continues to be Chairperson of her committee.

Hill Wallack LLP announced today that **Gregg A. Shivers, Donald A. Gosnay, George C. Greatrex, Jr., and Jennifer A. Webb** have joined the firm. With the addition of these four attorneys, Hill Wallack has greatly expanded its community associations and firm presence into South Jersey. Hill Wallack will now also have offices in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, located at Cherry Hill Plaza - Suite 309, 1415 Route 70 East, Cherry Hill.

New Jersey law firm Parker McCay is pleased to announce that **Brett Gorman** has been named to Burlington County Regional Chamber of Commerce's ("BCRCC") Young Professionals Leadership Class of 2019. The award honors BCRCC members under the age of 40 who demonstrate outstanding leadership in the Burlington County Business Community. The judges, area business leaders, selected the recipients based on civic engagement and volunteerism, enthusiasm in leadership roles, and acting as a mentor to those around them.

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We rely on members to provide announcements for the Legal Briefs section. If you have a new member of the firm, you've moved or you or a member of your firm has received an award or recognition for a professional or community activity, we want to know and share it with fellow bar members. Please email your submissions to kee@camdencountybar.org.