# Personal Data Questionnaire: Carolyn T. Carluccio, Pennsylvania Supreme Court candidate

1)	State your full name:
	Carolyn Tornetta Carluccio
	Have you even been known by any other name?
	Carolyn Tornetta, Carolyn T. Greene
2)	Office Address:
	Montgomery County Courthouse, 2 E Airy St, Norristown, PA 19401
	Office Tel:
	610-278-3450
	Name of law firm, if associated:
	N/A
3)	Date and place of birth:
	(date and month removed by PBA JEC), 1960; Norristown, PA
4)	Are you a naturalized citizen? If so, give data and place of naturalization:
	No.
5)	Family Status
	<ul> <li>a. Are you married? If so, state the date of marriage and your spouse's full name, including maiden name, if applicable</li> </ul>
	Married, 11/30/96 in Pennsylvania; Spouse: Thomas Edward Carluccio
	b. Have you been divorced? If so, state the date, the number of the case and the court:
	Yes; 4/2/92, State of Delaware, New Castle County, Petition No. 1085-91
6)	Have you had any military service?
	No.

7) List each college and law school you attended, including dates of attendance, and the degrees awarded and, if you left any institution without receiving a degree, the reason for leaving. List scholastic honor:

WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (former Delaware School of Law), Wilmington, Delaware Juris Doctor Degree 1985; National Moot Court Competition Team; Executive Board Member, Moot Court Honor Society; Chairperson, G. Fred DiBona Competition; Vice-President, Women's Law Caucus.

DICKINSON COLLEGE, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, BA 1982 Cum Laude; Bachelor of Arts, Spanish with American Studies concentration. Editor and creator of campus Spanish newsletter, Off-Campus Recruiter and Admissions Representative, Varsity Lacrosse.

UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, Madrid, Spain, 1980 – 1981

8) List all jurisdictions in which you have applied to take a bar examination, have applied for admission or have been admitted to practice. Include dates of admissions and if not admitted, give application dates and explain the outcome.

Pennsylvania Bar Association, Member 1985 – Present; Montgomery Bar Association, Member, 1985 – Present; Delaware Bar Association, Member 1987, still hold license as inactive status

- 9) Describe chronologically your law practice and experience after your graduation from law school and until you became a member of the judiciary, including:
  - A. Whether you served as clerk to a judge and, if so, the name of the judge, the court, and the dates of the period you were a clerk:

Clerk for President Judge, Judge Albert J. Stiftel, Superior Court State of Delaware, 1987-1988.

B. Whether you practiced alone and, if so, the addresses and the dates:

Independent practice under "Carolyn Tornetta" from 1985-1987.

C. The dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been connected and the nature of your connection with each:

Not affiliated with any law firm.

JUDGE, Court of Common Pleas, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania: January 2010 – Present; President Judge 2022 – Present; Administrative Judge, Family Division 2018 – 2021; Since elected in 2009, has been assigned to sit in the Criminal, Family and Civil Court Benches, and back-up Judge to Juvenile Court. In January 2018, appointed as the Administrative Judge of the Family Division. Instituted Mortgage Foreclosure Court; handled all condemnation cases. Created and implemented Custody 2.0 in the Family Division and the Civil Backlog initiative to resolve pandemic-related delays. Both programs served to assure efficient disposition and justice to Montgomery County families. First woman President Judge of the third largest county in the state. Spearheaded changes in every division of the court aimed at bringing efficiency and fairness to the justice system. Shepherding the redevelopment of the historic Montgomery County Courthouse.

CHIEF DEPUTY SOLICITOR, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania: February 2006 – December 2009: Represented the County of Montgomery, the County Commissioners and their 52 Departments in contract negotiations, real estate matters, personnel and labor law issues, farmland and open space preservation, Health Department litigation and purchasing negotiations and contracts. Successfully negotiated a complex \$27 million real estate transaction involving the purchase of private real estate for the County from an Investor/ Developer, saving the County nearly a million dollars in broker and legal fees. Selected as sole litigator in high publicity case in Montgomery County Orphans Court in re Barnes Foundation. Appointed to Commissioners Budget Committee overseeing all operating and capital expenditures of a \$600 million budget, chosen to serve on Montgomery County Board of Elections, Vice Chair (2007). Appointed to Willow Grove Air Force Base Land Reuse Authority Board. Chaired County Commission to Investigate Campaign Contribution Limits. Acquired land for the County's award-winning 60-mile trail system

# **ACTING DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, Montgomery County,**

**Pennsylvania:** July 2008 – March 2009. Directed and managed all Human Resource functions relating to more than 3,700 county employees, including hiring and firing, benefits, workers and unemployment compensation, salary administration, employee relations and labor law issues, streamlined first major change in over 10 years of health care coverage saving Montgomery County taxpayers \$2 million dollars.

CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania: January 2002 – February 2006. Served as first female Chief Public Defender. Managed 3rd largest Public Defender's office in the Commonwealth and largest criminal defense team in the County, including staff and 35 attorneys.

ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, District of Delaware, Office of the United States Attorney: January 1989 - August 1997. Extensive federal jury trial experience, managing cases from the investigative stages through appeal. Prosecuted large-scale drug dealers, bank robbers, money launderers and white-collar criminals; handled fraud and gun cases, and high security cases representing the United States Army. Civilly represented the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the Small Business Administration. Handled bankruptcy and civil forfeitures. Lead counsel in the USA's first jury conviction of a health care billing company for Medicare and Medicaid fraud. One of three prosecutors in federal Strike Force Drug and Money Laundering initiative leading to convictions in racketeering and narcotics of defendants from coast-to-coast. Created and implemented the District's first Federal Asset Forfeiture program resulting in millions of dollars of drug proceeds forfeited to law enforcement. Successfully briefed and argued numerous Third Circuit appeals. Served as District Professional Responsibility Officer.

10) A. What was the general character of your practice, dividing it into periods with data if its character changed over the years?

Period 1: Prosecutorial and Public Defender experience: 1989-2006

Period 2: Public official experience as county solicitor and acting human resources director: 2006-2009

Period 3: Judge: 2010-Present

B. Describe your typical clients and mention the areas, if any, in which you concentrated your practice:

Period 1: Represented the United States Government and criminal defense

Period 2: Represented County government

Period 3: Judge

11) What judicial office do you hold now? State whether you have been appointed or elected and the dates thereto. Describe the jurisdiction of such court and any limitations thereon. Have you ever held any judicial office? If so, please state the offices, courts and the period of such service. Please describe the jurisdiction of each of such courts, with any limitations upon the jurisdiction of each court:

JUDGE, Court of Common Pleas, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania: January 2010 – Present; President Judge 2022 – Present; Administrative Judge, Family Division 2018 – 2021; Since elected in 2009, have been assigned to sit in the Criminal, Family and Civil Court Benches, and back-up Judge to Juvenile Court. In January 2018, appointed as the Administrative Judge of the Family Division. Instituted Mortgage Foreclosure Court; handled all condemnation cases. Created and implemented Custody 2.0 and the Civil Backlog initiative. Both programs served to assure efficient disposition and justice to Montgomery County families. First woman President Judge of the third largest county in the state. Elected to Common Pleas in 2009; retained in 2019.

- 12) For the last five years or portions thereof during which you have held judicial office, indicate,
  - A. The nature of typical matters which came before you:

Civil, Criminal and Family matters.

B. The percentage of your time devoted to:

Civil: 25%

Criminal: 10%

Family: 65%

C. The percentage of your time devoted to:

Jury: 20%

Non-Jury: 60%

Administrative: 20%

D. Five of the more significant opinion you have rendered and citations thereto if the cases were reported:

CIVIL:

Johnson v. Lansdale Borough Civil Service Commission (10-34399)

Appeal from a Civil Service Commission Decision terminating a police officer.

Commonwealth Court Reversed the Trial Court. Pennsylvania Supreme Court Reversed the Commonwealth Court and Remanded to same. Commonwealth Court then Affirmed the Trial Court.

Ball v. Holy Redeemer Health System (09-12319)

Medical Malpractice - Jury Trial.

Superior Court Affirmed the Trial Court's Preclusion of an Expert.

<u>Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham Township v. Hansen- Lloyd, LP</u> (16-00752)

Land Use – Choice of Ordinance for Special Exception and Variance.

Commonwealth Court Affirmed the Trial Court. Supreme Court Affirmed the Commonwealth Court.

Thanhauser v. Douglass Township (13-06561)

Mandamus Action – Dismissed for Lack of Jurisdiction.

Commonwealth Court Affirmed the Trial Court.

Brown v. Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (17-01018)

Eminent Domain – De Facto Taking Found.

Commonwealth Court Affirmed the Trial Court.

# **FAMILY:**

# Mohen v. Mohen (15-10855)

Equitable Distribution involving Dissipation of Assets via Fraud.

Superior Court Affirmed the Trial Court on the Merits.

#### **CRIMINAL:**

# Commonwealth v. Mullin (010855-15)

Aggravated Assault Causing Serious Bodily Injury with a Firearm – Jury Trial.

Superior Court Affirmed the Trial Court.

Commonwealth v. Lynch (003106-12)

Homicide by Vehicle While DUI – Jury Trial.

Superior Court Affirmed the Trial Court.

Commonwealth v. Hamilton (001391-14)

Second Degree Murder – Jury Trial.

Superior Court Affirmed the Trial Court.

13) If a substantial portion of your practice had been before administrative boards, commissions or agencies during the five years before you became a member of the judiciary, identify the boards, commissions or agencies before which you practiced and estimated percentages of practice time devoted thereto:

As Chief Deputy Solicitor for Montgomery County, the office handled legal matters before municipal, county, state governments, Commonwealth and Federal courts, commissions, and agencies. As Chief Public Defender, the office handled legal matters before Magisterial, Common Pleas and Appellate Courts.

14) If a substantial portion of your practice had been before Appellate courts during the five years before you became a member of the judiciary, identify the Appellate Courts before which you have practiced and estimated percentages of practice time devoted thereto:

As Chief Public Defender, the office handled criminal issues before the Pennsylvania Superior Court.

15) Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, give details, including the office involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your services, giving dates:

Whitpain Township, Montgomery County Precinct Judge of Elections, 1998-2002

16) Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

No.

17) Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or the holding of judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

Pennsylvania Realtor license, 1982-2019

18) Are you now an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? If so, give details, including the name of your enterprise, the nature of the business,

the title or other description of your position	, the nature of your	duties and the term	of your
service.			

No.

19) Have you ever been arrested, charged with or convicted of violating any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, give details. Do not include summary traffic offenses:

No.

20) Are you under any ongoing federal, state or local investigation or indictment for possible violation of a criminal statute? If so, give particulars:

No.

21) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? If so, give particulars:

No.

22) If requested, will you submit certified copies of your latest tax returns (including Federal income tax)?

Yes.

23) Prior to taking the bench, were you ever sued by a client? If so, give particulars:

No.

24) Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in any other legal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. Do not list proceedings in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or stakeholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, a material witness, were named as a co-conspirator or a co-respondent and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject or in which you appeared as a witness:

No legal proceedings, except for divorce.

25) Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct or has any compliant against you been filed with the Court of Judicial Discipline? If so, give the particulars:

No.

26) Do any circumstances or issues exist that would or could impair your capacity or ability to perform the duties or functions of the position you seek or to fulfill the term of office? If so, please explain.

No.

27) Furnish at least five examples of legal articles, law review articles, briefs, or other legal writings which reflect your personal work. If briefs are submitted, indicate the degree to which they represent your personal work:

See enclosed writings.

28) List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups. List chairmanships or any committees in bar associations and professional societies and memberships on any committees which you believe to be of particular significance (e.g., judicial selection committee, disciplinary committee, grievance committee).

<ul> <li>Pennsylvania Bar Association, Member</li> <li>Government Lawyers Section, Vice Chair</li> <li>House of Delegates, Delegate from Zone 9</li> <li>Women in the Profession Committee, Member</li> </ul>			1985 – Present 2007 2002 – 2012 2002 – Present
<ul> <li>Pennsylvania Conference of State Tri</li> <li>Executive Committee</li> <li>Nominating Committee</li> <li>Officer positions held</li> </ul>	President President-Elect Vice President 1st Vice President Treasurer Secretary	Office 2013-2017 2015 July 2023 2022 2021 2019 – 2020 2018 2017	er 2017 - Present
Montgomery Bar Association, Membe		1985 – Present	
Officer positions held	President President Elect Vice President Treasurer Secretary	2011 2010 2009 2008 2007	
Council of Past Presidents     Served on ever fifteen some		2012 – Present	

- Chaired Personnel and Salary Committee, Law Reporter Committee, Women in Law Committee, Community Outreach and Executive Committee
- As Chair of Community Outreach Committee:
  - o Created Video "What You Need to Know About the Law" (2012)
  - Initiated "Courting Art" Award winning community art initiative aimed at adorning the walls of the Montgomery County Courthouse with art of County residents without cost to taxpayer
- Spearheaded Leadership Academy for young attorneys (2013 Present)

Montgomery Bar Foundation, Officer

2007 - 2009

Montgomery Bar Association Political Action Committee, Officer

2007 - 2009

#### American Inns of Court:

- Richard Rodney Chapter, Barrister (1989 1992)
- Desmond McTighe Chapter, Master (2001 2003)
- Montgomery American Inns of Court, Master (2004)
- Montgomery County American Inn of Court re-establishment (2022-Present)

# Delaware Bar Association, Member

• Diversity Committee

#### District of Delaware:

- Bankruptcy Fraud Working Group
- Professional Responsibility Officer

Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Member 2002 – 2006 Public Defenders Association of Pennsylvania, Board of Directors 2004 – 2006

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL LICENSE:**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, licensed Real Estate Salesperson

1982 - 2019

- National Associations of REALTORS®, Member
- Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS®, Member
- TriState REALTORS® Commercial Alliance, Member
- 29) List your experiences in teaching and lecturing, including law school, continuing legal education, both for the legal community and the judiciary, and to non-legal audiences.

Conducted extensive training for state, local and federal law enforcement personnel and attorneys in areas of federal asset forfeiture, drug interdiction and prosecution, money laundering and white-collar crime. Highly sought for training by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the IRS-Criminal Investigation Division, United States Secret Service and the Delaware State Police. Speaker for Pennsylvania Bar Association, Montgomery Bar Association, Philadelphia Bar Association. Instructor for the Widener University School of Law Intensive Trial Advocacy Program ("ITAP"). Lecturer for University of Delaware, Criminal Justice seminar and Widener University Paralegal Institute. Lead instructor with United States Attorney General Janet Reno in "Women in Law Enforcement Seminar." TEDx Conference Speaker "Leadership and Passion." As Judge spoke at

Pennsylvania Bar Association, Montgomery Bar Association, Philadelphia Bench Bar Conference, Conference of County Bar Leaders and Women's Leadership Council on topics ranging from social media to civil litigation. For nearly a decade, instructed a monthly civics education class for Norristown area 6<sup>th</sup> graders. In addition, have spoken before local civic groups, churches and schools.

30) List all organizations other than bar association, professional associations or societies of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations:

AIM Academy, Director (2015 - 2021)

Gwynedd Mercy University, President's Council (2010 – Present)

Villanova Law School, Member Writing in Practice Partnership (2011)

Drexel Law School Criminal Law concentration Advisory Board (2014)

Montgomery County Community College, Women's Leadership Council (2012 – 2016)

Montgomery County Community College Foundation, Board of Directors (2003 – 2009)

- Vice Chair (2006 2009)
- Art Barn Capital Campaign Committee
- Nominating Committee, Chair
- Special Events Committee

Justinian Society, Member Philadelphia and Delaware County

Teach Civics Education to 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the Norristown Area School District (2010 – Present)

Mission Kids, former Founding Board Director

Triangle Club, former Board of Directors (first female Director)

Montgomery Child Advocacy Project, former Founding Board Director

Columbus Monument Committee, former President

Americans of Italian Heritage Council, Inc., former Solicitor

Little Tower Foundation, Director

31) List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions.

Montgomery Bar Association, Past President's Award

Montgomery Bar Association, Committee of the Year Award - Women in Law

Montgomery Bar Association President's Award – Leadership Academy

Margaret Richardson Award

Main Line Today - Woman of Power - Women on the Move Award

YWCA Exceptional Women Tribute

Inspector General's Integrity Award presented for "Outstanding Leadership in the Fight Against Health Care Fraud"

Department of the Treasury – Criminal Investigation Division Recognition Award

Delaware State Police Commendation and Dedication Award

Drug Enforcement Administration Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Drug Law Enforcement

Federal Bureau of Investigation Commendation "...lead prosecutor in a complicated healthcare fraud investigation"

United States Postal Inspection Service Official Commendation Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Recognition Certificate of Appreciation United States Secret Service Certificate of Appreciation for Exceptional Work

32) State any other information which may reflect positively or adversely on you or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for an election/retention to an Appellate Court of Pennsylvania.

For thirteen years, I have had the privilege of presiding over criminal, family, civil and some juvenile cases as a Common Pleas Judge. This diverse court experience can serve as an asset to Pennsylvanians seeking experienced judges for our highest court.

33) Why do you wish to become a Justice or Judge? What special strengths do you feel you possess that would particularly well qualify you for the position of Justice or Judge?

I'm running for two reasons. First, I have a passion for the law. The American system of justice is exceptional as we are all equal under the law. Second, like all Pennsylvanians I want a justice system that is fair and impartial.

34) Did you sign the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines? (Please return signed pledge with completed questionnaire)

Yes.

# **Enclosures:**

#### **27. LEGAL WRITINGS:**

#### SAMPLE 1: Montgomery County Bar, OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – WINTER 2011-12

By Hon. Carolyn T. Carluccio

Just as it is a tradition for the incoming Montgomery Bar Association President to address members in the January edition of <u>Sidebar</u>, so it is a tradition for the outgoing MBA President to address members as his or her term comes to a close. In my last article as President, I would like to convey my sincere thanks and to reflect upon the past year.

Much has happened since I took the gavel from Past President Steven H. Lupin. In January, I became the first member of the Judiciary to lead the Montgomery Bar Association. As such, I thought it only fitting that I propose diversity in leadership as my yearly theme. At that time, I suggested that in promoting lawyers of diverse backgrounds, we would ensure our reputation for leadership in the community. I also challenged each of you to become leaders in our community, shepherds of our future leaders and caretakers of societal values. As I explain below, the members of the Montgomery Bar Association met these challenges.

My first initiative was to appoint a Blue Ribbon Panel to determine the necessary steps to establish more diversity in the leadership of the MBA. Past-President Cheryl L. Young chaired this illustrious panel, which included former Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals Anthony J. Scirica, Superior Court Judge Susan Peikes Gantman, Associate Dean of Villanova Law School Catherine J. Lanctot, and bar director and partner of *Kaplin Stewart*, Mohammad Aleem Ghiasuddin. This panel evaluated whether changes to our bylaws were necessary to assure further diversity in the leadership ranks. Their valued recommendations re-enforced my theme, namely, defining diversity as an inclusive concept to encompass gender, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation. In addition I sought diversity of background, experience, political persuasion and practice concentrations. As a result of the Blue Ribbon Panel effort, and with the support of the Board of Directors and membership, the composition of the MBA nominating committee, will be changed. This committee functions as the gatekeeper to leadership of the bar association by screening officer candidates, the changes will result in a more diverse representation on the committee, and ultimately in our leadership.

For the first time, the Diversity Committee and the Women in the Law Committee will be standing committees of our bar. The chairs of these committees were committed to be leaders in 2011, and proved to be the source of a constant flow of new talent and fresh ideas. This year we memorialized written policies on political activity of officers, listserv etiquette and social media policy. These policies enabled the MBA staff to launch the social media platforms necessary for our growing and vibrant association to stay current with the times.

Early outreach efforts to government lawyers and corporate counsel resulted in modest increases in our members from these under-represented practice areas. We have met with the Montgomery County Sheriff several times to establish ways in which the MBA and the Sheriff's Department can work together. At the October Board meeting, the MBA Directors and Chairs were treated to a surprise tour of the lock-up facility in the basement of the Courthouse. The Sheriff's Deputies led attorneys through the

procedures a defendant would undergo during a typical day in court. It was enlightening for the attorneys to see the process first-hand, appreciate the role of a sheriff deputy and get a glimpse into the hidden world of a lock-up facility – a location that most attorneys did not know even existed in our courthouse.

The Montgomery Bar Association also partnered with Villanova Law School this year. This partnership has blossomed into a mutually beneficial relationship for all involved. MBA Managing Partners met with the law school staff to discuss ways to make law school graduates more 'practice ready;' the MBA participated in a seminar on professionalism given to graduating law students to help them prepare for the first step of their career; plans are underway to establish an externship that would allow 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year law students to work with the Montgomery County Child Advocacy Project. An externship program with the law school will provide obvious benefits to law students who will be getting practical, real life experience representing children in the system.

Indeed, the MBA partnership with Villanova Law has already proven successful. Within 2 months of offering the option, 35 Villanova law students became members of our bar and were offered many of the benefits of our practicing attorney members. We also held a CLE at the Villanova law campus entitled "The Changing Legal Landscape: Opportunities and Challenges." Attendees included students, faculty and members of our bar who learned ways in which attorneys can maximize opportunities available for business development, networking and promotion, while successfully navigating home and work challenges. This CLE was co-sponsored by the Women in Law Committee and the Law School. Every attendee received a copy of Deborah Epstein Henry's new book entitled Law and ReOrder.

In addition, our annual Bench Bar Conference at the incomparable Grand Cascades Lodge at Crystal Springs allowed for an autumnal weekend of camaraderie, learning and good cheer for 20 members of our bench and 200 members of our bar, including 40 children. It provided a great opportunity for judges and attorneys to share a glass of wine, don casual attire and enjoy each other's company.

Moreover, the Bar Association continued to speak out on behalf of the Law Reporter emphasizing the importance of maintaining this very important part of our revenue. The Law Reporter revenue provides funds for Legal Aid, the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project and many local organizations – keeping the MBA at the forefront of the needs of the community.

The Civics Education program also flourished. This program, which began last year, has expanded from one lawyer and one judge per classroom to two lawyers and a judge in every sixth grade class in the Norristown Area School District. This year, the program also brought students to the Courthouse to experience the legal system in action. A small group lead by Wendy Rothstein, updated and energized the lesson plans, and the 2011 school year took off with new energy. Teachers, school administrators, students, lawyers and judges have embraced the program and have become more enthused about the program each month.

The Bar Association also started a new tradition at the Annual Members Dinner. We produced video vignettes to honor the 50-year members of our Association. In these vignettes we asked each 50-year member the following three questions: why did you become a lawyer; who were your mentors; and, what advice would you give to new lawyers today? The answers were candid, informative — and often humorous. These videos give an honest look at the members, clues to their personalities and highlighted some of their great accomplishments. They will be preserved for future MBA members and are sure to be a keepsake for generations.

In speaking about several of the changes in our Bar Association, I would be remiss by not mentioning one of the stalwart Sections. The Family Law Section of the MBA has consistently been a stand out Section. Their strong attendance, stellar CLE presentations and enthusiasm and commitment to our bar is rivaled by none. The Family Law Section deserves abundant praise for their contributions to our association. I am confident that the Section will continue its good work in the future.

In November, we finished recording our inaugural season of "What You Need To Know," a community outreach video series aimed at assisting consumers with commonly asked questions about our laws. Our first five segments, recorded and produced at Montgomery County Community College, are scheduled to air in the weeks ahead in cooperation with the Times Herald and other media partners. Also on the topic of media, this year we adopted a bold new look to our weekly BAR NEWS email blasts and to our online marketing efforts.

I hope you review the accomplishments of the past year with pride. I hope that you conclude that having a member of the bench sitting as the MBA President brought variety and vitality to our organization. I hope that you are able to look upon this last year, as I have, with fondness and a sense of accomplishment. I was humbled to serve an organization that I love, and feel blessed to have given my time and talents.

As I pass the baton to Donald J. Martin, I do have some people to acknowledge. As we all know, a leader is only as good as the people with whom she surrounds herself. I start by thanking my stellar Board of Officers who supported me unconditionally. It did not matter what issues or ideas I asked of them, they always rose to the occasion. The Board of Directors, the chairs and the vice-chairs of our 50 committees took their role seriously: meeting regularly, encouraging attendance with witty and attention grabbing meeting reminders; and, always keeping the best interests of the MBA at heart. The small and mighty staff at the MBA always obliged when asked to jump through their 5<sup>th</sup> hoop of the day! They rose to every challenge and exceeded expectations. I give homage and thanks to the past presidents. Without their encouragement, I would not have come to this position. And finally, I offer a word of thanks to our executive director, Nancy Paul, who carries the Association on her shoulders with a confidence and poise possessed by few. It is this group of talented and diverse leaders who have made this association what it is today.

In closing, I thank each and every MBA staff member as well as each member of our bar for providing the support and encouragement which allowed me to lead as my heart dictated.

# SAMPLE 2: Montgomery County Bar, Incoming President's Message - Winter 2010-11

By Hon. Carolyn Tornetta Carluccio

It is tradition that the incoming president of the Montgomery Bar Association has the privilege to address our members in the January edition of *Sidebar*. It is here that the incoming president strives to dazzle with humor, intelligence and wit. As only the third woman president of this great bar association, and its first president who is also a Judge, I think I will continue to break with tradition.

Our Association is on the cusp of very important changes. I, therefore, think that it is appropriate that my first message to you reflect the seriousness of purpose that will mark my year as your President.

My theme for this year is: DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP.

Our Association must take the lead in promoting leaders of diverse backgrounds. We must show the citizens of Montgomery County that our Association is made up of civic leaders from every walk of life who not only excel in their professional endeavors but also can lead our society to a brighter future.

I have always been a "glass-half-full" kind of person. I have approached life, love and work with passion, optimism and excitement. That is how I am approaching my year as President. I believe that despite the challenges we face, we will overcome them and prosper precisely because we, as an Association, have truly talented leaders. I firmly believe that we can only truly promote this talent by practicing inclusion in our leadership hierarchy.

My background is one of public service. Before becoming a Judge, I was a federal prosecutor, a public defender and a county solicitor. As a public servant for the majority of my career, I am strongly motivated by a desire to better the common good and to help those less fortunate. I can think of no better way to do that than by helping our Association promote those attorneys who have been traditionally underrepresented in our Association – specifically, those from diverse backgrounds, women, and government and public interest attorneys.

As all new presidents prepare for their year, they look for initiatives and programs to make this great Bar better. Every year my predecessors have managed to do just that. Their platforms have manifested into another shining example of why this Association is one of the most prominent in the State. As I did my own evaluation, looking at what is worthy about our association and what I can offer to this group, it became glaringly apparent to me why I am here. The timing of my presidency is no accident. The issue that is ripe this year and is ripe for me personally is that of diversity in leadership

My year as President marks only the third time that a woman has led the Montgomery Bar Association and the first time in 127 years that the president was a sitting Judge. In 1994, Nancy Wentz was our first woman president. It took 10 years before we had our second, Cheryl Young. I thank these two strong, bright and accomplished women who led the way for me. Although, prior to 2011, Montgomery County had never had a Judge serve as President of the Bar Association, many other county and state bars have already had Judges at the helm. In 2006, Allegheny County had its first Judge as president when The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark became not only the first judge but also the first African American woman to run their 6,500 member association. By all accounts, bench and bar, Allegheny County has benefited from Judge Clark's leadership. Lancaster County has had four Judges serve as president, two of whom now sit on the federal bench. Prince George's County, Maryland and Nashville, Tennessee, have also recently had the benefit of a Judge as president. Just this past year, sitting Judges ran the Chicago and Baltimore City Bar Associations. Other associations have had corporate counsel, law professors, and public defenders and prosecutors assume the mantel of president.

However, we must strive to do better than the occasional woman or Judge serve as president; just as our bench has diversified in the last year, so must our association. We must go further because it is in diversity, which brings with it fresh, bold ideas, that our Association can grow and stay current with the changing landscape of the legal profession. Thus, I refer to "diversity" in broad terms. I mean diversity in race, gender and sexual orientation. I mean diversity of background and experience, of political persuasion and legal philosophy, of practice concentrations and approaches.

Several years ago a committee was created to increase diversity in the membership of our Association. It is now time to advance to the next level. We must increase diversity in our leadership making it

common place rather than an aberration. Our goal must be for the leadership of the MBA to reflect the diversity of the membership that it represents. It is important for the Bar to not only embrace this concept, but to engage in the networking, mentoring and recruitment necessary to advance these principles. The path to achieving this goal is through leadership.

As leaders it is our responsibility to promote and advance young lawyers and potential lawyers. To that end, I plan to continue the important program started by past-President Lupin of involving Association members in the civics education of Norristown area 6th grade public school students. We will bring those students to the courthouse, allowing them to see the justice system at work. So far, the Judge-lawyer teams that have been teaching in 6<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms have received stellar reviews from the students and teachers; the lawyers and Judges themselves, have also raved about its success. In 2011 we will continue and expand upon this project.

An additional way to welcome and support future members of our Association is to partner with our area law schools. Law firms want new attorneys who understand the practice of law, and law schools want their graduates to find jobs. A seminar in professionalism given to graduating third year law students will promote this objective.

Please join with me in guiding our Association into the 21st Century. We are leaders, innovators and in the forefront of so many of the issues that confront our profession and society – we do not want to be left behind when it comes to diversity. By promoting lawyers of diverse backgrounds, we are assuring that our reputation for leadership will continue, and indeed, expand.

Join me in welcoming 2011 with an optimistic heart, an open mind and a spirit that embraces challenge. I challenge each of you to be a leader in 2011. Take the challenge and prove that we are not only proud members of the legal profession but also proud leaders in our community, shepherds of the leaders of our future and caretakers of societal values.

It is my firm belief that the active participation of Judges is vital to our bar association. Having judges involved in our association, and in leadership roles, also serves to promote good relationships between the bench and bar. Attorneys and judges share special responsibility for our system of justice - We are truly partners in our common calling as servants of the law and of a nation under law. We share responsibility for upholding and enforcing society's values through the enforcement of those laws.

# SAMPLE 3: Montgomery County Bar, On Leadership, Professionalism and Civility; Spring 2011

Remembering Those Lessons We Learned In School

By Hon. Carolyn T. Carluccio

When my youngest son, Joseph, was in third grade, his teacher pulled him aside and complimented him on being a leader. She tactfully added that as a leader, he had the important responsibility of acting like a leader in front of the other children in his class and leading by example. Like most third graders, Joseph and his friends would "goof-off" from time to time. What amazed ME was to see how a simple reminder from his teacher of his important responsibility could have such an immediate and positive impact on his behavior. What amazed JOSEPH was how quickly his classmates followed suit. He was quite impressed with the newfound power that he possessed.

Fast-forward to last month. I had the distinct pleasure of sitting as a Judge for our district High School Mock Trial competition. The students who competed were professional, and respectful of each other and the Court. They used the rules of evidence appropriately, were well prepared, and knew their case inside and out. Without question, they were leaders too. One afternoon after a hard-fought mock trial, my court crier remarked, "Judge, I wonder what happens to these folks between the time they're in High School and the time they get into our court?" While his remark was clearly in jest, I couldn't ignore the underlying truth in his suggestion that we as professionals often lose sight of the basic lessons we learned as kids; things like "minding our manners", "being respectful of others", and recognizing "there's a time and a place for everything." Of course, let's not forget that frequently overlooked golden rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

In the last issue of SIDEBAR, I touched on the responsibility that we all have as legal professionals and leaders in our society. I urged each of you to embrace your role as a leader as so many lawyers and judges have before us. Let this serve as a reminder that we, like my son Joseph in his third grade class, all need to be mindful of our important responsibility to lead by example. When we act professionally, those around us will follow suit. When we treat others with respect, we ourselves will merit respect. When we nurture and maintain our credibility and integrity, our colleagues and adversaries alike will do so, ensuring that our reputations will remain unsullied. When we treat opponents and the Court with courtesy and civility, treat the law as a profession as opposed to merely a business, and commit portions of our time to community and pro bono work, then and only then, will we elevate the perception of lawyers and present our profession more consistently in a positive light.

Recently, a small group of young lawyers and I took part in a panel discussion with over 100 third-year Villanova law school students as part of a new partnership initiative that our Bar Association launched earlier this year. The program, entitled "What My Legal Ethics Professor Didn't Teach Me About Professionalism and the Practice of Law" will help better prepare law students for the workforce. It was not intended to be a manners course; however, it should come as no surprise that a key component of our first lesson focused on professionalism and civility. As so insightfully observed by my court crier at that high school mock trial, these are qualities that somehow tend to get lost -- somewhere between our schooling and when we appear in the courtroom. Preparing law students to enter the practice of law is our responsibility as much as the responsibility of law professors, so one of our first objectives was to explain that the most effective trial lawyer is not only smart and hard working, but courteous as well.

As members of this Bar Association and leaders in our respective communities, it is imperative that each of us be mindful of our important responsibility to keep fresh in our minds those little rules and lessons we learned as kids.

# Leaders Among Us...

All lawyers are inherently leaders. They champion unpopular causes and represent unpopular clients; they defend the Constitution and protect the rights of others. They serve in political office and give generously of their time and money to those less fortunate. They coach children's sports teams, volunteer in classrooms and work in shelters and soup kitchens. Following are just a few examples of how members of our Bar Association have embraced their roles as leaders, demonstrating the highest levels of professionalism and civility both inside and outside of our courts:

Since September of last year, approximately 40 Montgomery County attorneys and judges have demonstrated their leadership by volunteering their time with our Bar Association's "Liberty and Law" civics education program. Each month since the program launched, they have taken time to teach civics education in every 6th grade classroom in the Norristown Area School District. Over 500 students have already been touched by this program which we plan to expand into other school districts. While this initiative has received recognition from the Pennsylvania Bar and coverage from our local news media, the 40 men and women of our bench and bar association who volunteer their time do so without fanfare. They do it because they truly love working with the children and giving of their time and talents to the community.

Adam Zucker, a partner in the law firm of Mudrick and Zucker P.C. in Conshohocken, donated his bone marrow, through a very painful operation, to a young girl he had never met. He did this because he truly cares for people and wanted to give where he could. This is the same member-attorney who is an instrument rated pilot and spotlighted in this issue's Lawyers Lending a Hand segment for his work with Angel Flight East. Angel Flight East is a local charitable organization, based out of Wings Field in Plymouth Meeting that organizes and coordinates flights on private aircraft for patients seeking medical attention far from home. No doubt, Adam is a leader.

A partner at Fox, Rothschild, LLP, in Blue Bell, Marilou Watson demonstrates she's a leader by dedicating her time to several community boards and causes. She serves as a counselor in a young adult community outreach program and manages a mentoring program designed to increase diversity in the practice of intellectual property law. Marilou also seeks and recruits law students with technical backgrounds and provides them with mentorship opportunities in the area of patent law. She frequently travels to area high schools to talk to students about careers in the legal profession, and educates middle and high school students through the Philadelphia Street Law program along with other attorneys in her firm. Outside the legal profession, Marilou promotes science, technology, mathematics and engineering to students through the STEM program and in 2009, was one of 50 executives statewide appointed by Governor Rendell to the Pennsylvania Early Childhood Investment Commission.

Joe Walsh, a partner at the firm of Walsh Pancio, LLC in Lansdale demonstrates he's a leader by coaching youth sports and serving as a chairperson for the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors. Joe, like so many others in our bar association also volunteers his time as a child advocate with MCAP. In recent years, he has held board positions with Penn School District, the North Montgomery County Technical Career Center, and the Montgomery Township Zoning Hearing Board – just to name a few. He is an active member of our bar association, and an immediate past president of our Trial Lawyers Section.

Another Leader amongst us is Mary Doherty, a partner with Norristown's High Swartz law firm. Mary has been dedicated to teaching lawyers through the PBI, PBA and local Bar Association Family Law Sections since she began her practice of law. For 16 years she has worked with a local high school to teach students about the consequences of communicating poorly with their partners; about the economic consequences of separation and divorce; about custody issues; and, more recently, she has helped them express the pain of marital dissolution by helping them write and perform skits about the impact of divorce on the family and in the community. She began a Mercy Project through her church working with 8th grade students to write sympathy cards to parish members who suffered a loss in the past year. For over 25 years she has been a Board member, President and Chair of UNITE, Inc., a non-profit that

provides services to bereaved parents. She actively mentors young attorneys and is a board member and active participant in many other community organizations.

It is qualities like these found in the lawyers of this bar that we should all learn from and of which we should all be proud. These are the qualities of true leaders.

# SAMPLE 4: Montgomery County Bar, PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SUMMER 2011

# **On Mentors and Role Models**

By Hon. Carolyn T. Carluccio

In last quarter's column, I wrote of the obligation that we as legal professionals have to be positive leaders in our respective lives and communities. I touched on the merits of professionalism, the great work of our members and the important responsibility each of us has to lead by example. Needless to say, the burden which comes with responsibility can often be much for one to carry. So where *pray tell* do we as leaders turn for support, inspiration and guidance? Where do we turn for direction and clarity in the face of turbulence and life's great challenges? I've found that often it is the usual suspects – our role models and mentors – that provide the ballast.

As much as we all like to attribute our success to our own hard work and fortitude, chances are it was one or more role models or mentors along the way that got us where we are today. We learn some of our most important lessons from others. We are social creatures which is perhaps why organizations like ours continue to be so important to our professional growth and success. Whether we find strength in the words of a long-deceased law professor, an inspiring fictional character, a high achieving colleague, a dynamic CLE speaker or committee/section chair – role models and mentors can provide a great deal of guidance and stability along the way.

As inherent leaders and prototypical achievers, lawyers never stop learning. At the heart of learning is our passion and inspiration. As I was taught and now tell my boys "find something you love, and then find your purpose in life." Role models help us to recognize the passion within ourselves and help us channel that passion into something special. They inspire us.

As children, we learn from our parents, caregivers and teachers. As we get older, those role models are augmented by mentors. Mentors provide more intimate guidance and support. They take us under their wings; they help us through tough times and they provide us with invaluable feedback. Think about it. At some point in each of our lives, someone took the time to recognize and embrace our abilities. They brought us on board and gave us a chance to demonstrate our talents. They advised us. They taught us. They recognized our passion and provided us an outlet and an opportunity that we may not have otherwise had.

Some of us are fortunate enough to have someone in our lives who has served a dual role as both role model *and* mentor. I am blessed to have been raised by someone whom I have modeled my life after — my father. My success and happiness in life and law are a credit to his sound advice and nurturing. His work ethic and moral compass are uncompromising. His axiom is: "go the extra mile, because it is not crowded there." This exemplifies the way my father has conducted his life both professionally and personally. No job is beneath him and there is not a person for whom he does not show complete

respect and compassion. He is as kind to the grocery bagger as he is to the CEO of a major bank. He has given his time and talents to countless community boards and nonprofits – teaching me that volunteering is part of who we are and what we do as good citizens. He never takes the accolades or compliments for so many jobs well done, but shares them freely among those with whom he works. This always brings out the best in others. He pursues new ideas and keeps his brain active and challenged. He always makes time for friends and colleagues who eagerly seek his advice, guidance and direction. At the core of my father's business philosophy lays the fact that he truly enjoys what he does. He chose a career that ignites his passion. He didn't follow the well-worn paths taken by others, but instead found the type of work that made him excited to get up every morning. In spite of his drive and passion for his work, he made sure that his family was his first priority. It is his love for his family that motivates his passion at his job.

Thinking about those who have gone before us, influenced us and motivated us can no doubt help us through life's challenges and inspire each and every one of us. Let's continue to do our part by continuing in the path of our role models. Let's make an effort, like our role models, to strive, to teach and learn, to nurture and to pass along our passion. Struggling to find that someone to lean on in difficult times? With that in mind, there are no doubt hundreds of perspective mentors and role models among us.

# **ROLE MODELS AMONG US**

I recall reading an article about 5 years ago by James Sandman, who was then president of the D.C. Bar Association, about what makes a lawyer good role model. He identified individual characteristics inherent in attorneys who are recognized as bona fide role models. Below are the traits identified by Mr. Sandman:

- They have integrity;
- They possess an understanding and working knowledge of professionalism and respect for others;
- They give back to their community;
- They mentor other lawyers;
- They value differences among people;
- They remember that family comes first;
- They truly enjoy what they do

Do any of these traits resonate with you? What will your legacy be?

The MBA hosted its annual Legal Aid Golf Classic in June. Through the generosity of the participants, sponsors, and donors, and matching funds from the association, the event raised over \$34,000 for Legal Aid. Thanks to all of you who supported this and other events in our legal community, and to all of you who continue to give back through the good work of our Association and Foundation.

My theme this year has been encouraging diversity in leadership. One highlight for me was a luncheon I attended recently with President-Elect Donald Martin in Philadelphia, hosted by the Legal Intelligencer. At the event, 20 awards were presented to the top diverse attorneys in the Commonwealth – three

attorneys from Montgomery County received this prestigious award. All three have been leaders of our association's diversity efforts in recent years. What an incredible accomplishment for these three men and for our county to be recognized in such a public fashion. Our proud recipients are, Daniel Clifford, Mohammad Ghiasuddin and William Sylianteng. *Warm congratulations to each of them*.

The Diversity Committee recently launched its third annual Summer 1L Program, which provides paid internships to first year law students of diverse backgrounds. Participation and interest in the program has grown steadily from year to year. This summer, nine highly qualified students are already placed with law firms and corporate/government legal departments throughout Montgomery County. The program runs for eight weeks with each student receiving a stipend of \$500 per week, paid by the employer. Throughout the internship, the Diversity Committee sponsors a weekly event for the students to meet and interact with Bar leadership, members, and area firms. Please take a moment to acknowledge those firms for participating in this year's program.

Another theme for this year has been to encourage government lawyers to become involved in our association. To that end, we hosted a 'Get Acquainted' Cocktail Reception at the bar association for young government lawyers and student interns in our government offices. It was a great success. With the help of President Judge Hodgson, District Attorney Risa Ferman, Public Defender Steve Heckman, Deputy AG Jane Fisher, DEP attorney Adam Bram and Legal Aid Director Harvey Strauss, we had well over 60 young lawyers and government interns at the reception. We hope to see them again at the always popular Clambake, July 14th at the Barn at Mermaid Lake in Blue Bell.

Our partnership with Villanova Law School has blossomed into a mutually beneficial bond. I am particularly proud of our collaboration on issues that Law Schools share with the legal community. It came to our attention that law schools are struggling with their 3rd year graduating students' attaining employment. Law firms are reluctant to hire third year law students because they lack experience. With the present glut in the market for lawyers, it is easier for a firm to hire an attorney with experience. To help law schools find employment for their students and help lawyers identify students with ability and experience, we are in the beginning stages of establishing an externship program whereby their students can gain experience as certified legal interns in the courtroom and with real clients. Their aid will help our court system deal with the ever-increasing number of pro se litigants. Thanks to all of the young lawyers who have stepped up as mentors and role models to help lead this charge.

In September I am pleased to invite all of you to attend the 2011 Bench Bar Conference at Crystal Springs Resort, Grand Cascades Lodge, Vernon, NJ. The resort boasts 5 golf courses, arguably the best spa in New Jersey, 4-star dining, a Louis LaTour wine cellar and the largest hydroponic pool on the east coast. There will be a CLE on eyewitness identification that will entertain lawyers in all practice areas, spouses and even children. This year's event will provide an engaging and entertaining opportunity for judges and lawyers to network, renew old friendships and forge new ones.

These events and opportunities are the hallmark of our Bar Association. What better place is there to get to know some great new mentors and role models, or perhaps become a role model or mentor yourself?

#### SAMPLE 5: Montgomery County Bar, PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – FALL 2011

Your Bar Association is keeping up with the times - Even if your president is still trying to catch up

By Hon. Carolyn T. Carluccio

In order for an association to remain relevant to its members, it must use the language and communication vehicles of the times. Clearly these days, social media is that vehicle.

In the interest of full disclosure, I must confess that I am a social media neophyte. I rarely use my Facebook page, I neither tweet nor blog and I have not yet "LinkedIn".

The truth is that like most lawyers, I like to be in control. As attorneys, we are taught to know the answer to the question before we ask it. We want to have a good idea of the result before we get it. This is part of who we are. However, the reality is that once you jump into the social networking morass, you relinquish a certain amount of personal control. Your personal world is suddenly intertwined with the World Wide Web. This can be disconcerting. As the old adage goes, *Lawyers are* 100% for change and 1000 % against it.

Despite my reticence, I am aware of the need for a forward thinking bar association to keep up with the times. With an executive director like Nancy Paul and a progressive communications charge lead by Jim Mathias, there was no turning back. With their encouragement, and the support of my incomparable board of officers, we appointed a Social Media Focus Group, led by Harold Goldner, to decide whether the MBA should enter the social media arena. As part of their analysis they reviewed the different types of technology that impact the legal community and the courts. The group also weighed the ramifications and the opportunities that entrance into this field would present. I will now share with you how we reached our decision

Our first step was to familiarize ourselves with the various types of social media currently out there:

<u>Social Networking Sites</u> (ex. **Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn)** A collection of user profiles that allows members to interact and share news, images, videos and more.

Blogs (ex. Blogger, WordPress) Users periodically post more lengthy essays or share news items.

<u>Microblogs</u> (ex. **Twitter, Tumblr, Plurk**) Users are able to instantaneously share information about location, interesting news, etc. The "micro" refers to the brevity of update messages. For example, Twitter limits messages to 140 characters.

<u>Visual Media Sharing</u> (ex. **YouTube, Flikr**) These sites allow for the warehousing and sharing of searchable videos and photos to either a private network or the public at large.

Once we understood the jargon, the next task was to determine its value to our members and to weigh the benefits and risks. Each of the aforementioned social media platforms could be utilized by both the bar association and its members in the following ways:

A Facebook page would be a great way to promote events & CLEs, share interesting news articles, and link up bar members and others with one another. By "liking us" on Facebook, members and friends could have one more way to keep up with MBA happenings and related events.

A Twitter profile could supplement our Facebook page, with up-to-the-minute reminders, updates – even real-time pictures from events. The use of *hash-tags* will allow us to aggregate information for future searches or to join in current discussions. We could "re-tweet" relevant news items or links from other users to our members.

An MBA blog would allow members to contribute short articles, commentaries and updates. It could be an online counterpart to our quarterly Sidebar publication.

We would have the ability to upload videos and photos to promote the association, or to be used as online *cloud* storage on the various visual media sharing sites.

There was little doubt that social media would be of benefit to our association. We now needed to figure out if it would be of benefit to our members also. A quick review of the latest industry statistics made it abundantly clear that social media is not a passing fad.

Major law schools have courses in social media. Fortune 500 companies have social media directors on staff. Governments have their own websites and Facebook pages. It has become mainstream. More than 65% of online adults use social networking sites. As of August 2011 Facebook claimed over 750 million members and recently LinkedIn surpassed the 100 million user mark. The American Bar Association Annual Legal Technology Survey released this summer indicates that 62% of Lawyers are on LinkedIn, 22% on Facebook and 6% Twitter. Of the Lawyers using social media, 73% report they use it for career development, 71% for networking, and 53% for client development. A surprising one-third of State Court Judges and Magistrates use social media sites. In courtrooms, lawyers use social media daily to log hearing dates in smartphones, conduct legal research on IPads, present evidence from Facebook and email and to check courtroom procedures and process. Lawyers benefit from social networking because it enables the exchange of valuable information, expands ones professional network and attracts new clients. The time had come for our bar to join this revolution!

Of course, with any new venture, come risks and challenges that need to be assessed. First and foremost, social media will not eclipse the MBA's social networking function. On the contrary, social networking will accelerate and supplement face-to-face interaction. It will allow us to disseminate information through another outlet and reach people we may not have reached before. New members of the bar will increase because younger members use social networking as a "standard" method of access to information and communication. Our sites will be closely moderated by MBA staff to ensure that content and comments adhere to the social media policy. We will stay current with, or ahead of other bar associations and our members will benefit from instantaneous communication of events and news.

I recall a time when colleagues questioned the usefulness of electronic mail. Who would ever take the time to type out a letter instead of picking up the phone? I'm sure Alexander Graham Bell's contemporaries never thought the telephone would replace face-to-face interaction. Social media is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pew Research Center's Social Media survey, August 25, 2011. Six years ago, when Pew first conducted this survey, only 5% of all adults said they used social sites like Facebook LinkedIn or MySpace.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ABA's Annual Legal Technology Survey found at www.americanbar.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Conference of Court Public Information Officers, August 26, 2010

just another step in the evolution of communication. It won't replace the way we interact with each other, it will augment it.

So after careful consideration, we decided to move forward and make the leap. A social media policy was drawn up and approved, which allowed the MBA staff to move forward with creating the necessary sites and profiles.

Through the launch of these social media platforms, it is our hope that we add value to your membership, improve our member relations, inspire attorneys to action and raise awareness of the bar's services, benefits and programs. That being said, keep in mind that the bar association's website montgomerybar.org – will continue to be the central place for MBA news and events, with social media acting as a complement. Join me and follow the bar association as we embark on this new initiative!







To "like" us on Facebook, visit www.facebook.com/MontgomeryBarAssociation

To **follow** us on **Twitter**, visit www.twitter.com/Montgomery\_Bar

To **follow** us on **LinkedIn**, visit www.linkedin.com/company/montgomery-bar-association.

# PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE FOR APPLICANTS CURRENTLY ON THE BENCH

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AUTHORIZATION

As a candidate for the Pennsylvania Appellate Courts, I hereby acknowledge and authorize the procedures of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission, including the following:

- 1. The Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission will make available to the public the Questionnaire and my responses to it, except for the questions and responses which are acknowledged to be confidential, which information shall remain available only to the Commission and an investigative panel.
- 2. The rating assigned to me by the Commission will be publicly announced and will be accompanied by an explanation of reasons for the rating.
- 3. Should I receive a *Not Recommended* rating, the Commission will endeavor to notify me prior to a public announcement. If I withdraw from the race, the unfavorable recommendation will not be announced during this current election cycle.
- 4. I hereby authorize the Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board, the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners to transmit my entire file and record, including confidential information contained therein, to the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission. I hereby specifically waive any confidentiality rights I may have in those records.
- 5. I hereby authorize the Judicial Conduct Board, the Disciplinary Board, and the Board of Law Examiners, or the equivalent, in any jurisdiction where I have practiced, been admitted to practice or have applied to either take a bar examination or for admission to the bar to transmit my entire file and record, including confidential information contained therein, to the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission. I hereby specifically waive any confidentiality rights I may have in those records.
- 6. The Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Commission may change, during the course of my campaign for office, the original rating assigned to me for cause. Cause shall include a violation of the Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines. I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Guidelines.

Type or print name

Type or print name

Type or print name

Date