

Boston Bar Association Public Service Report | 2012

# BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES



Boston Bar  
ASSOCIATION

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## About the Boston Bar Association

Since the late 1700's, when John Adams and other prominent Boston lawyers organized meetings in Beacon Hill taverns and coffeehouses, the Boston Bar Association (BBA) has been the hub of our profession — a strong and now diverse group committed to education, public service and access to justice.

Today the BBA is over 10,000 members strong. Big-firm partners, solo and boutique lawyers, affinity bar leaders, in-house counsel, regulators, legal aid attorneys, court personnel, law school faculty and others are among our ranks. Our members boast expertise in a wide range of legal fields, including Boston's most prominent industry practices: health, financial services, and college and university law. Long established as an opinion leader in the law, we are also the leading metropolitan bar association in professional development, hosting over 500 programs each year.

The BBA believes an inclusive legal community is a strong legal community. With that core value in mind, we've built formal partnerships with six affinity bar associations:

- Asian American Lawyers Association
- Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys
- Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association
- Massachusetts Black Women Attorneys
- Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association
- South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston

These dynamic working relationships inform our initiatives and expand our capabilities as we look to a bright future.



## About the Boston Bar Foundation

Founded by the BBA in 1957, the Boston Bar Foundation (BBF) supports the pro bono and public service projects of the bar, funding legal services organizations that provide access to justice for those who need it most, and engaging lawyers in the kind of projects that improve people's lives and strengthen neighborhoods.

The mission of the BBF is to promote justice by:

- Funding and promoting innovation in legal services
- Enhancing access to justice for the underserved
- Supporting the public interest activities of the bar

As the independent charitable arm of the BBA, the BBF is inspired by the values that all attorneys owe to themselves, their peers and their communities — professionalism, service, compassion and responsibility.



# ON THE FRONT LINES



## Lawyer for the Day in the Boston Housing Court

Since 1999, thousands of individuals struggling to navigate a complex, overburdened court system have found relief through the Lawyer for the Day Program at the Boston Housing Court. Volunteer lawyers and law students help unrepresented tenants and landlords with a range of services, from information and advice to full representation in eviction proceedings.

A partnership of the BBA, Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association, Greater Boston Legal Services, WilmerHale Legal Services Center and the Boston Housing Court, this program will soon expand to provide assistance to pro se landlords filing complaints for Summary Process.

The operations of the Lawyer for the Day Program are generously supported by the Herbert W. Vaughan Fund of the BBF.

### THE NUMBERS:

- Since May 1999, an estimated **12,000** volunteers have helped more than **14,732** individuals.
- From September 2011 to August 2012, **457** volunteers assisted more than **976** tenants and **178** landlords; **74** of those assisted were over age 60.



## From the Volunteer Front:

### Christopher T. Saccardi

Law Office of Christopher T. Saccardi

*“A significant majority of the people we assist are low-income or disabled, frequently don’t speak English as their first language, and are often unable to afford counsel. They typically face a landlord represented by an experienced attorney and the stakes could not be higher — the potential loss of their home or their rent subsidy.*

*I have found my pro bono work at the Housing court extremely gratifying. I helped a woman with an extremely sick child stay in her apartment by explaining to the landlord that the reason for her missed rent payments was her preoccupation with the health of her daughter. By arranging for a payment plan and actively monitoring her progress, I was able to get her back on track and concentrate on supporting her daughter.*

*In another case, I spoke with a tenant who I quickly came to understand had exhausted her legal options and was likely to be evicted. I sat down with her and listened to her story and gave her some advice about options for requesting a bit more time from the judge before her inevitable move-out date. When we were finished speaking, I expected her to be depressed by the disheartening news I had just given her. Instead she gave me a big smile and thanked me for my time, saying that this had been the first time someone had actually sat down and took the time to listen to her. I continue to be amazed at how much of a difference a little advice or a few kind words can make to many of the litigants I speak to at the Housing Court.”*

### REAL ESTATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE:

**Joanna Allison**, Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association (co-chair)

**Matthew Lawlor**, Robinson & Cole LLP (co-chair)

**Andrew Cohn**, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

**Bruce Eisenhut**, Board of Bar Overseers

**Mary Lee**, Mary K.Y. Lee PC

**Robert Lewis**, Boston Housing Court

**Maureen McDonagh**, WilmerHale Legal Services, Center Harvard Law School

**Samuel Moskowitz**, Davis, Malm & D’Agostine, PC

**Joe Ann Smith**, Boston Housing Court

**Hon. Jeffrey Winik**, Boston Housing Court

**Barbara Zimbel**, Greater Boston Legal Services



## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Tax season can be a stressful time of year for anyone, but for many families in the Commonwealth, income tax assistance can mean the difference between subsistence living and dire poverty. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program helps low-to-middle-income taxpayers complete tax returns and learn about special credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Child Tax Credit and Credit for the Elderly. The EITC lifts more children out of poverty than any other social program.\*

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program provides free tax preparation and empowers taxpayers with a better understanding of financial decision-making at 28 sites throughout the Boston area from January to April.

### THE NUMBERS:

- In 2008, the BBA became a member of the Boston EITC Coalition, a campaign spearheaded by Mayor Thomas Menino.
- The program served **11,000** taxpayers at over 20 community sites across the city in 2011.
- BBA volunteers assisted more than **765** individuals during the 2012 tax season.

### COMMITTEE:

**Lucas Burke**, *Attorney at Law*

**Jamie Charles**, *Middlesex County District Attorney's Office*

**Sonia Kwon**, *Lynch, Brewer, Hoffman & Fink LLP*



## Veterans Initiative



Since 2001, over 2.28 million military personnel have been deployed to Afghanistan and Iran.\* Serving abroad can present a variety of legal issues before and after deployment, including employment and family issues.

The Veterans Initiative takes a two-fold approach to aiding this population, assisting military personnel based in the Commonwealth through education and legal advice:

- Volunteers offer legal advice and information at Massachusetts National Guard pre- and post-deployment Yellow Ribbon events. Service members can speak to attorneys one-on-one about individual concerns and legal issues.
- Housed at the Legal Advocacy and Resource Center, the Military Help Line serves as a dedicated intake line connecting military personnel and their families to pro bono and low-fee attorneys. Help Line callers are directed to legal assistance through service agencies like the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association, Shelter Legal Services and the BBA Lawyer Referral Service.

This program was launched by the Active Duty Military-Family Members & Veterans Committee of the BBA's Delivery of Legal Services Section. Besides supporting the Veterans Initiative, the BBA offers educational programs on the legal needs of service members as part of its professional development programming.

#### OUR PARTNERS:

The Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association  
Legal Advocacy and Resource Center  
Shelter Legal Services

#### THE NUMBERS:

- Over **44** volunteers spent over **257** hours at Yellow Ribbon events between December 2010 and August 2012.
- The Military Help Line fielded over **300** calls in 2011.

#### DLS ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY, FAMILY MEMBERS & VETERANS COMMITTEE

**Lynn Girton**, *Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association (co-chair)*

**Anna Schleelein**, *Shelter Legal Services Foundation (co-chair)*

**Elizabeth Alfred**, *New England Law | Boston*

**David Bizar**, *Seyfarth Shaw LLP*

**Samantha Caplan**, *U.S. Coast Guard*

**Cameron Casey**, *Ropes & Gray LLP*

**Nancy Dempze**, *Hemenway & Barnes LLP*

**Martha Drane**, *Medical Legal Partnership — Boston*

**Elizabeth Funk**

**Galen Gilbert**, *Gilbert & O'Bryan LLP*

**L. Scott Harshbarger**, *Proskauer Rose LLP*

**Maura Healey**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Gina Holness**, *Gina Dines Holness, Esq.*

**Melissa Karpinsky**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**William Keating**, *Norfolk County District Attorney's Office*

**Lisa LaFera**

**Tera Lally**, *Proskauer Rose LLP*

**Paul Lannon**, *Holland & Knight, LLP*

**Donald Lassman**, *Law Office of Donald R. Lassman*

**Cynthia MacCausland**, *Law Office of Cynthia E. MacCausland*

**Britte-Anne McBride**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Shannon McLaughlin**, *Massachusetts National Guard*

**Rosa Previdi**, *Legal Advocacy & Resource Center*

**Anthony Sciaraffa**, *Army National Guard of the United States*

**Mary Sullivan**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Michelle Wolf**, *Partners HealthCare*

## From the Volunteer Front:

**Sonia Shah**, *BBA Public Service Manager*

*"A few weeks ago I volunteered at a Post Deployment Yellow Ribbon Event organized by the Massachusetts National Guard. The BBA Active Duty Military, Family Members & Veterans Committee attends Yellow Ribbon events to provide brief legal advice and legal resources.*

*For over two hours I spoke to men who needed help and advice on their family law issues. One soldier I spoke with had his 6 year old son with him. He wanted to discuss filing for divorce; his wife had left him and the children while he was deployed. The soldier reassured his son and encouraged him to sit at the table and draw while he talked with me. As soon as the father walked away, the son ran after him and climbed into his lap. It was obvious how much this little boy was hurting. His father left on deployment and is back but then his mother left and he had to move out of his home. I was able to provide the father with some basic information and hopefully provide him with some guidance.*

*In those few moments with this father and son, the sacrifices these men and women are making and the toll it is taking on their families became so clear. I heard story after story that day that broke my heart.*

*Although I wasn't able to solve these men's problems, the help I was able to provide was more than they had before walking through that door."*

\* Department of Defense, U.S. Census Bureau.



## Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code Implementation Help Desk

The much anticipated Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code (MUPC) went into effect in April 2012, overhauling trusts and estates administration in the Commonwealth. To help ease the transition for the court, practitioners and pro se litigants, the BBA's Trust & Estates Section launched the MUPC Implementation Help Desk Program in partnership with the Massachusetts Bar Association and the Probate and Family Court.

This program created eight "resource desks" at various Probate and Family Court Registries across the state. Desks are staffed by volunteer attorneys one to two days each week. In addition to supporting the Implementation Help Desks, BBA members highlight aspects of the law on the Trusts & Estates Section blog to help educate practitioners on important new issues.

### THE NUMBERS:

- The Implementation Help Desk Program launched in April 2012, when the new law went into effect.
- From April 2012 through August 2012, **123** volunteers staffed the resource desks.
- During that period, volunteers assisted **168** individuals.

### TRUSTS AND ESTATES PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:

**Cameron Casey, Ropes & Gray LLP**  
**Peter Shapland, Day Pitney LLP**

## From the Volunteer Front:

**Peter Shapland, Co-Chair of the BBA Trusts & Estates Section Public Service Committee, Day Pitney LLP**

*"I volunteer at the MUPC Resource Desk for at least two important reasons. First, it provides me an opportunity to offer some of my time and knowledge as a public service, to both the Probate Courts and persons of limited means using the Courts. Second, it gives me the opportunity to represent the BBA, confirming its own focus on public service."*

*"The MUPC represents the most significant single statutory change in the history of the Massachusetts Probate Courts, and that change has come at a time of limited resources for the Courts. The Resource Desk offers some assistance to the Court staff, and to the public, in adapting to the new rules brought by the MUPC."*

**Allison Cleveland, Day Pitney LLP**

*"Volunteering allows me to do service (which all lawyers should do!), but in this particular area, it benefits me in a more tangible way as well. Each time I've volunteered, I've encountered questions that prompted me to learn more about the new law, keep my own skills sharp, and determine how the courts will be handling numerous issues under the MUPC. It's a win-win situation!"*

## Training & Mobilizing Volunteers

The BBA dedicates significant resources to preparing lawyers for public service work, harnessing its training expertise to educate pro bono volunteers. By hosting free high-quality and comprehensive lawyer-led trainings, the BBA helps attorneys bring much needed skills and experience to the communities in greatest need of services. During the 2011-2012 program year, the BBA trained over 300 lawyers in a broad range of topics and specialties.

Recent trainings included:

- **Pro Bono Recruitment Fair & Open House**  
Attorneys and law students came together for this annual opportunity to meet legal services attorneys and learn about pro bono work. Sponsored in partnership with the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Service at Suffolk University Law School, the event is part of the Massachusetts Pro Bono Month, as proclaimed by Governor Deval Patrick and the National Pro Bono Celebration of the American Bar Association.
- **Trying a Case in Boston Housing Court**  
Held twice this year in partnership with the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association, this popular training recruited 88 new volunteers for the Lawyer for the Day Program, a program generously supported by the Herbert W. Vaughan Fund of the BBF.
- **Representing Military Personnel, Veterans and Their Families in Family Court**  
Covering a wide range of topics specific to the military (e.g. the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, jurisdictional issues in divorce and child support matters, and military pay and allowances), this event supported the Veterans Initiatives of the BBA. The program featured speakers from Shelter Legal Services and the National Guard, and prepared attorneys for membership on the BBA Lawyer Referral Service Family Law Military Panel.



## Training & Mobilizing Volunteers (continued)

- **Representing Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors: A “How To” for Pro Bono Lawyers**

This two-hour training taught 38 attorneys the steps necessary to help immigrant minors obtain status and get on the pathway to United States citizenship.

- **CORI Sealing Training**

In support of Greater Boston Legal Services’ CORI Sealing Project, 43 attendees were trained to:

- Represent pro bono clients in criminal record-sealing cases in Boston Municipal Court.
- Lead community events to educate low-income people on rights to seal CORI records.
- Present at high schools, youth programs or community colleges about young people’s rights to seal CORI and juvenile records.

The CORI Sealing Project works to remove barriers for individuals searching for career, housing, and educational opportunities.

- **Donate Your Time: Represent Claimants Seeking Unemployment Benefit Training**

This program guided 28 attorneys through the intricacies of the unemployment system and the information they will need to represent clients at hearings. Those trained will support the efforts of the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association and Greater Boston Legal Services.

- **Chapter 7 Pro Bono Training — Barnstable and Boston**

The BBA Bankruptcy Section’s Pro Bono Committee partnered with the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association to offer two events that trained more than 100 lawyers on Chapter 7 Bankruptcy law, an initiative that will help address the current backlog of cases in the courts. The program is generously supported by the Charles P. Normandin Fund.

- **Charitable Board Service**

An annual event offered by the Public Interest Leadership Program (PILP), this program offered information on opportunities to serve on charitable boards, the obligations of board service, and topics and issues facing boards and directors. The session attracts over 100 attorneys each year.



## Public Interest Leadership Program

In its ninth year of producing young public interest leaders PILP selected an outstanding class of 14 up-and-coming leaders from the largest-ever applicant pool.

PILP class members embark on a 14-month program that builds leadership skills and trains leaders to develop initiatives that have the greatest impact on a community.

### PUBLIC INTEREST PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE FY12:

**Darren Braham**, *Prince Lobel Tye LLP (co-chair)*

**Kathleen Henry**, *Plymouth Rock Assurance Corporation (co-chair)*

**Neil Austin**, *Foley Hoag LLP*

**Jennifer Doran**, *Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP*

**David McGowan**, *Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office*

**Randall Ravitz**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Shaghayegh Tousi**, *Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP*

**Patrick Tracey**, *Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP*

**Suleyken Walker**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Edward Zacharias**, *McDermott Will & Emery*



**Jacqueline Silva Anchondo** — *Boston Area Rape Crisis Center*  
Jacqueline Anchondo is the legal advocacy coordinator at Boston Area Rape Crisis Center. She previously worked as a Skadden Fellow at Greater Boston Legal Services Immigration Unit. Jacqueline is a graduate of Stanford Law School.



**Benton B. Bodamer** — *Weil, Gotshal and Manges LLP*  
Benton Bodamer is a senior corporate associate with Weil, Gotshal and Manges LLP. He regularly represents public and private companies and financial sponsors. Ben was a Moritz Scholar at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, graduating with honors in 2006. He currently sits on the Executive Advisory Board of the Friends of Harvard Track.



**Julia E. Devanthéry** — *HomeStart, Inc.*  
Julia Devanthéry is the manager of legal advocacy at HomeStart, Inc., where she represents low-income tenants on the verge of homelessness. She graduated from Northeastern School of Law in 2009. She is the vice president of the Board of Directors of RESPOND, Inc., a domestic violence shelter and community services provider.



**Jennifer R. García** — *Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)*  
Jennifer García provides legal counsel to MAPC, where she is responsible for ensuring the agency is compliant with relevant federal and state laws. Jennifer earned degrees from Columbia University and the University of North Carolina School of Law. She also serves on the board of the Massachusetts Alliance on Teen Pregnancy.



**Omar F. Gonzalez-Pagan** — *Massachusetts Attorney General's Office*  
Omar Gonzalez-Pagan is an assistant attorney general in the Office of Attorney General Martha Coakley. He serves on the boards of the Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association and the Boston Lawyers Chapter of the American Constitution Society. Omar is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



**Eric A. Haskell** — *Foley Hoag LLP*  
Eric Haskell is a litigator at Foley Hoag LLP who specializes in commercial disputes and class action defense. Eric earned his juris doctor from Columbia Law School in 2005. Eric serves as chairman of the Hingham Republican Town Committee and as a lector at Resurrection Parish.



**Emily F. Hodge** — *Choate Hall & Stewart LLP*  
Emily Hodge is an associate in the litigation department with Choate. Emily serves on the Board of Friends of CASA, Inc., and sits on the United Way Emerging Leaders General Committee.



**Daniel M. Routh** — *Ropes & Gray LLP*  
Daniel Routh is an associate in the Litigation Department with Ropes & Gray, where he focuses on business litigation. Prior to starting at Ropes & Gray, Daniel worked as a New Alternatives Fellow at Cambridge & Somerville Legal Services. Daniel is a graduate of Harvard Law School and University of Maryland.



**Staci Rubin** — *Alternatives for Community and Environment, Inc. (ACE)*  
As staff attorney at ACE, Staci Rubin provides legal services to community groups and coalitions working for environmental justice. Staci earned a juris doctor from Northeastern University School of Law, a master of environmental law and policy from Vermont Law School and master of public health from Tufts University School of Medicine.



**Christopher T. Saccardi** — *Law Office of Christopher T. Saccardi*  
Chris Saccardi is a solo practitioner at the Law Office of Christopher T. Saccardi, where he focuses on landlord-tenant law in Boston and surrounding communities. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Northeastern University School of Law.



**Brendan St. Amant** — *Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar, LLP*  
Brendan St. Amant is an associate at Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar, LLP, where he focuses his practice on business litigation, employment law and white-collar criminal defense. He is a trustee for the East Cambridge Scholarship Fund and serves on the Cambridge Human Rights Commission. Brendan is a graduate of both Harvard Law School and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.



**Anjali Waikar** — *Krokidas & Bluestein LLP*  
Anjali Waikar is an associate at Krokidas & Bluestein LLP, where she represents nonprofit, healthcare and social service organizations and charter schools. Anjali is a graduate of Wesleyan University and Northeastern University School of Law.



**Meghan D. H. Walsh** — *Holland & Knight LLP*  
Meghan Walsh is the manager of Holland & Knight's Public & Charitable Service Department. Meghan is a graduate of Boston College Law School and Amherst College.



**Raquel Webster** — *National Grid*  
Raquel Webster is a senior counsel in the Regulatory Group at National Grid, where she represents the company in rate and regulatory proceedings and counsels clients on regulatory compliance and strategy for a wide range of statewide energy policy initiatives. She is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Boston Debate League, the Boston Preparatory Public Charter School and the Northeastern University School of Law Alumni Board.



## Working with Youth

### M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program

A partnership between the BBA and the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts, the Financial Literacy Program endeavors to educate students in financial decision-making before they make mistakes that will ruin their credit. Volunteer attorneys, judges and financial professionals teach high school students the ins and outs of personal finance, budgeting and using credit and credit cards, as well as the perils of falling into financial trouble.

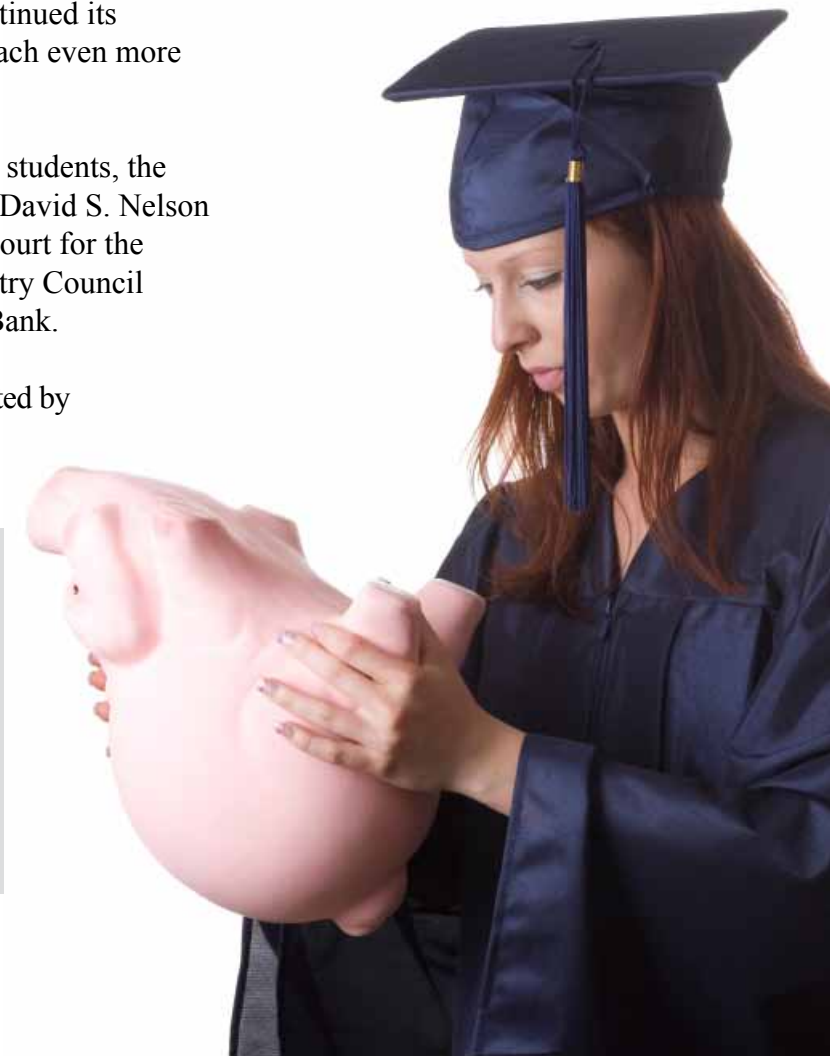
During the past school year, with the support of over 80 volunteers including Attorney General Martha Coakley, the program reached a record 437 students. In addition, the program continued its expansion in Hamden and Worcester counties to reach even more students in the western part of the state.

This summer, in addition to the BBA Summer Jobs students, the program served summer jobs students at the Judge David S. Nelson Fellowship Program of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts and Boston Private Industry Council students working at Citizens Bank and Sovereign Bank.

The Financial Literacy Program is generously supported by the Charles P. Normandin Fund of the BBF.

#### THE NUMBERS:

- This program year, the program achieved a record high by reaching seven schools and over **526** students, and **105** volunteers donated over **500** hours.
- Since 2005, with the assistance of over **400** volunteers, the program has reached over **1200** students statewide.





## From the Volunteer Front:

**Jessica Massey**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

*"I was worried that it would be like pulling teeth to get high school kids interested in credit, but they were very eager to learn and participate. I was most impressed when the students had questions or wanted to participate without being asked to do so. They seemed genuinely interested in learning the subject matter."*

**Shemane Amin**, *Brown Rudnick LLP*

*"The most memorable part of the session was when the students shared with us their experiences with lending and borrowing money. For those that had borrowed from friends and family in the past, it was interesting to see how many of them had in fact been charged interest. Upon learning of the inordinately high interest that some of the students had paid to their friends, we shared a few laughs with the students as we explained 'loan sharking' to them."*

Student Perspective:

**Anthony Betances**, *Boston Latin School*

*"My favorite seminar took place at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The reason it was my favorite was because it put into practice many of the things that we had already heard about in the past seminars. We already knew that irresponsible spending could carry serious consequences, and we had been given some information on bankruptcy, but the unfolding of the process in front of our very own eyes had more of an impact. All of a sudden, someone spending \$40,000 or so but getting hit with more than \$80,000 in fees and interest became more real, as did the possibility of buying a car and getting into more debt than that new car is even worth. It really just showed how ridiculous and reckless things can get if you're not proactive about, and conscious of, your financial life."*



## Law Day in the Schools

This spring, attorneys participating in the Law Day in the Schools Program visited classrooms across Boston to teach students the importance of due process and access to justice. For one class period in May 2012, elementary, middle and high school students put down their science and math books and assumed the roles of the victim, the accused, law enforcement, prosecutor or defense counsel in a mock trial. Guided by the theme of "No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom," and teaching exercises designed by a small group of PILP alumni, volunteers engaged students in a thought-provoking conversation on what justice means to our community.

The BBA has participated in Law Day in the Schools since 1986. The program is generously supported by the Francis S. Moran Fund of the BBF.

### THE NUMBERS:

- **Twenty-eight** volunteers donated **175** hours of their time.
- The program reached **580** students in five schools.

Snapshot of the Boston Public Schools:

- The system consists of 125 schools.
- 57,000 students are enrolled.
- 78% of BPS students are eligible to receive free and reduced-priced meals in school.
- 53% of students are eligible for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.
- 43% of students speak a language other than English as their first language.
- Students come from more than 110 countries and speak 77 different languages.

### COMMITTEE

**Aaron Agulnek**, *Jewish Community Relations Council*  
**Jane Harper**, *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*  
**Dara Kesselheim**, *Choate Hall & Stewart LLP*  
**Nicole Murati Ferrer**, *Licensing Board for the City of Boston*  
**Jesse Redlener**, *Dalton & Finegold, LLP*  
**Anita Sharma**, *PAIR Project*

### FINANCIAL LITERACY FY12

**Hon. Joan Feeney**, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court (co-chair)*  
**Janet Bostwick**, *Janet E. Bostwick PC (co-chair)*  
**Jeanne Darcey**, *Sullivan & Worcester LLP (co-chair)*  
**Hon. Frank J. Bailey**, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court*  
**Peter Bilowz**, *Goulston & Storrs — A Professional Corporation*  
**Patrick Dinardo**, *Sullivan & Worcester LLP*  
**Barbara Gilmore**, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court*  
**James Lynch**, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court*  
**Jesse Redlener**, *Dalton & Finegold, LLP*  
**Stephen Reynolds**, *U.S. Bankruptcy Court*  
**Meghan Roche**, *Law Office of Meghan Roche*  
**George Roumeliotis**, *Hendel & Collins, PC*  
**J. Robert Seder**, *Seder & Chandler, LLP*  
**Mackenzie Shea**, *K & L Gates LLP*  
**Natalie Wagner**, *Bank of America*  
**Jenny Yandell**, *Parker & Associates*

## From the Volunteer Front:

**Emily F. Hodge**, Choate Hall & Stewart  
PILP (class of 2012-2013)

*"I arrived at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School for a Law Day class with Ms. Yang's third grade class, and was escorted to the classroom by two bright and bubbly girls who had a lot of questions about being a lawyer. One said she wanted to be a lawyer when she grew up — and also a fashion designer and a dentist. We began our Law Day discussion talking about what a lawyer or attorney is, and what they do. We talked about what "justice" means, and the students offered up the following adjectives: fair, equal, liberty. Every student was engaged and enthusiastic. The students offered up great ideas and were clearly thinking hard about the justice system and the role of lawyers.*

*We turned to the fact pattern, and reviewed it together as a group. The students were buzzing with comments about whether Tomika really could have taken Maria's book bag. Most students seemed to think Tomika was innocent, but others noted, "what about the fact that her locker was locked with the bag inside?" We split into groups, and everyone had a lot to say about their roles — some were excited, and others found it hard to think about the case from a point of view they didn't agree with. It was incredible to watch the students argue their positions —*

*Participating in Law Day was a great way to step outside the daily practice of law and take part in educating young students about the role that the law, justice and lawyers might play in their own lives. Each of the students seemed to think hard about what it might mean to participate in a case like this one, and how important it was to have a process and a system in place to ensure that every voice was heard. Listening to the students' thoughts about justice and our legal system was fascinating, and it was rewarding and inspiring to see how energized the students were about vigorously defending each of their positions."*



### Boston College School of Law Legal Ethics Orientation for Students

Every year since 1999, a BBA president has attended the Boston College School of Law Legal Ethics Orientation to convey the importance of thinking thoughtfully and carefully about legal ethics. Conducted as a role play of an ethics committee meeting of a law firm, the orientation is a unique experiential opportunity for students to discuss legal ethics with seasoned attorneys.

### How-to-Guide to Children's Mental Health Services

Now in its third edition, *The Parents' How-to Guide to Children's Mental Health Services in Massachusetts* is an informational resource and reference tool for families navigating the mental health system.

### Third Edition Highlights

This third edition of the guide expands to address developmental and autism spectrum disorders and discuss school-based and special education programs. With many new additions to the resource list, this edition also incorporates recent developments.

The guide is accessible online at the websites of the BBA, Massachusetts General Hospital, MassLegal Services and Boston Children's Hospital.

### Principal for a Day

BBA President Lisa Goodheart joined 132 other leaders from the public and private sector in the BPE's Principal for a Day Program. Lisa spent the morning shadowing principal Peggy Kemp at Fenway High School and got a firsthand look at the school improvement investments the district has made and the challenges that remain.



## Mayor's Youth Council

Since 1994, the BBA has co-sponsored the Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) with the Mayor's Office and Northeastern University. The MYC gives young people the opportunity to do outreach to Boston teens, inform teens of opportunities and listen to suggestions on what the city can do to improve its efforts.

This program aims to show Boston youth how the city and its institutions work, develop leadership, encourage community service and promote personal growth in today's young people.

The BBA provides the MYC with lawyer-mentors, who attend bi-monthly meetings at Boston City Hall, guide students through their program goals and help them develop skills in various capacities including executing and leading meetings. BBA volunteers work with MYC members to help with program planning, agendas, community outreach and coalition building.

## From the Volunteer Front:

**Edmund J. Gorman**, Law Office of Edmund J. Gorman

*"Our role as BBA mentors has numerous facets. Each year, the MYC representatives identify an issue or two that are important to their lives as teenagers. e.g., school nutrition, public safety and violence prevention, civility on the "T," substance abuse, summer jobs, and after-school programs. The mentors assist the MYC's planning by steering the discussions to focus on the specific issue and goal. Sometimes, we ask questions to generate more thinking and discussion while at other times we try to answer questions, especially when the roles of law and government are pertinent.*

*Occasionally, we share an anecdote to illustrate a point. For example, a few kids scoffed at the notion of teens taking a minimum wage or no-pay summer job. I explained that I began working at 16 years old for \$1.60 per hour. That employer is now a major client and I believe I was selected as its counsel in part because I had swept the floors.*

**Neil Austin**, Foley Hoag LLP

*"Being a mentor is a rewarding and low-stress activity. Outside of regularly-scheduled meetings, mentors are often involved in facilitating the Council's special projects. This year, I attended the resume-writing workshop with another BBA volunteer and provided tips and feedback to high school students preparing resumes for summer jobs and college admissions."*

**Christina Miller**, Suffolk County District Attorney's Office

*"The opportunity to assist in the vision and activities of committed youth who strive to make a difference in our city is exceedingly rewarding. Simply put, these are good kids who want to make a difference. If I can assist them in any way, then we have all made a difference. Living in Boston myself, I reap the rewards of their initiative."*



## Creating a Pipeline...



for a More  
Diverse &  
Inclusive  
Profession



## Summer Jobs Program

Every June, a select number of Boston high school youth trade their backpacks for suits and embark on a challenging personal and professional journey through the BBA's Summer Jobs Program. The students accepted into the program hail from 21 diverse Boston neighborhoods. In addition to English, many speak Spanish, Vietnamese, Haitian Creole, Chinese or one of the 77 languages spoken by Boston Public Schools (BPS) students.

The BBA partners with the Boston Private Industry Council, the BPS and the City of Boston to offer this opportunity to a wide cast of students. The principal program aim is to help BPS students learn about the law and the legal profession through firsthand, on-the-job experience. A long-term goal is to increase diversity and inclusion in Boston's legal community

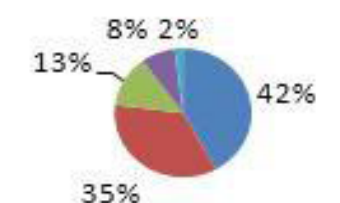
Beyond learning the necessary office skills of a professional environment, students participate in weekly enrichment seminars with a strong emphasis on education. The seminars focus on issues of rights and responsibilities of the workplace, the judicial system, and civic and financial responsibility.

To gain the tools necessary to make smart financial decisions, all students also participate in the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, a partnership between the BBA and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts.

### THE NUMBERS:

- Over the past 19 years, the BBA has introduced over **385** young adults to the legal profession.
- This summer, the program expanded to a record **55** students.
- **Forty-four** firms and companies sponsored students
- The BBF sponsors positions each year for students to intern at legal services offices, government agencies and the courts. In 2012, the BBF sponsored a record number of 10 positions through its Austin Jones Fund and M. Ellen Carpenter Fund.

### BPS Student Demographics



- Hispanic (42%)
- Black (35%)
- White (13%)
- Asian (9%)
- Other/Multicultural (2%)

## Summer Job Sponsors (Firms):

Anderson & Kreiger LLP  
Bingham McCutchen LLP  
Boston Bar Association\*  
Burns & Levinson LLP\*  
Choate Hall & Stewart LLP  
Chu, Ring & Hazel LLP  
Collora LLP  
Committee for Public Counsel Services\*†  
Cooley LLP  
DLA Piper LLP- Boston Office  
Donnelly, Conroy & Gelhaar, LLP  
Donovan Hatem, LLP  
Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP\*  
Ferriter Scobbo & Rodophele PC  
Foley Hoag LLP  
Goodwin Procter LLP  
Hemenway & Barnes LLP  
Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP  
Holland & Knight, LLP  
Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services†  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute†  
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC  
Morrison Mahoney LLP  
Nixon Peabody LLP  
Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP  
Office of the Corporation Counsel City of Boston\*  
Peabody & Arnold LLP  
Pierce Atwood, LLP  
Prince Lobel Tye LLP  
Proskauer Rose LLP  
Ropes & Gray LLP\*  
Shaevel and Krems  
Sherin and Lodgen LLP  
Shilepsky, Hartley, Robb, Casey & Michon LLP  
Sovereign Bank  
Suffolk County District Attorney's Office\*†  
Suffolk University Law  
Sugarman, Rogers, Barshak & Cohen, PC  
Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP  
Todd & Weld LLP  
United States Bankruptcy Court†  
Verrill Dana LLP  
Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Assoc. \*†  
Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, PC

\* Hiring more than one student

† Position funded the by BBF

## Alumni Corner:

**Emmanuelle Renelique**, *WilmerHale*  
*Summer Jobs Program Class of 2003*

*"The most valuable things I learned during my Summer Jobs opportunity with the Boston Bar Association was the importance of good work ethic and the benefits of networking. I was a high school student who had never worked in an office until I started at Ferriter Scobbo & Rodophele. I was challenged to perform important tasks in a fast paced environment and quickly learned how crucial it was to ask questions when I did not understand something. The attorneys and staff were very gracious and appreciative when I asked questions as it demonstrated my enthusiasm as well as good judgment in wanting to complete the task well. I also learned the importance of networking. The working relationships I established through the Boston Bar Summer Jobs resulted in many great mentors and friends. My favorite memories from program were the visiting the various courthouses and attending my first Red Sox game!"*

*While Summer Jobs students usually have minimal office experience, they are chosen from a select pool of applicants. Law firms certainly benefit from their zeal and energy. In my opinion and based on my work with other BBA Summer Jobs students, I was able to see the great benefits in having these students exposed to a law office. In addition to the proactive and inquisitive nature of these students, they are also able to seamlessly grasp the technology given the fact that they are "digital natives." Their creative input could prove to enhance working systems and productivity.*

*The BBA Summer Jobs Program definitely affirmed my decision to pursue a legal career. As an intern, I had first-hand exposure to corporate law firm culture and the working environment. I believe my Boston Bar Summer Jobs experience gave me a competitive edge in the applicant pool. By participating in and staying involved with the Summer Jobs Program, I had the opportunity to address the audience in the BBA Law Day Dinner in 2010. It has also helped me meet important leaders in the legal community including former BBA President Jack Regan. I am now a Litigation Project Assistant at WilmerHale and am excited to further my legal career in law school."*



## Thank You to Summer Jobs Volunteers:

**The Honorable Peter Agnes**, *Massachusetts Appeals Court*

**Barbara Berenson**, *Supreme Judicial Court*

**Lawrence DiCara**, *Nixon Peabody LLP*

**Kathleen Henry**, *Plymouth Rock Assurance Corporation*

**Emmanuelle Renelique**, *Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP*

**Jillian Vorce**, *The Jillian Group*

## STEERING COMMITTEE:

**Edward Notis-McConarty**, *Hemenway & Barnes LLP (co-chair)*

**David Rosenblatt**, *Burns & Levinson LLP (co-chair)*

**Neil Austin**, *Foley Hoag LLP*

**Elaine Carmichael**, *DLA Piper LLP — Boston Office*

**Sherley Cruz**, *Greater Boston Legal Services*

**Jennifer Doran**, *Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP*

**Brian French**, *Nixon Peabody LLP*

**Edward Hale**

**Sheryl Howard**, *Krokidas & Bluestein LLP*

**David McGowan**, *Suffolk County District Attorney's Office*

**Matthew McTygue**, *Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP*

**Stephen Meli**, *John Hancock Insurance and Financial Services*

**Jeffrey Mittleman**, *Holland & Knight, LLP*

**Matthew Moschella**, *Sherin and Lodgen LLP*

**Colin Van Dyke**, *Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC*

**Natasha Varyani**, *New England Law | Boston*



## Boston Debate League

The BBA is excited to begin its new partnership with the Boston Debate League (BDL), a natural extension of the BBA's strong commitment to the Boston Public Schools (BPS). Part of a growing national urban debate league movement, the BDL provides a unique opportunity for youth development, teaching students the power of critical thinking, persuasive writing and effective communication skills.

BBA members can participate in one-time or ongoing volunteer opportunities to support the project, serving as debate tournament judges or as mentors to the debate teams.

### The Impact:

- Debaters are three times less likely to drop out of school than non-debaters.
- African-American males who debate are 70% more likely to graduate from high school than those who don't.
- Urban debaters improved both their Reading and English ACT scores by 15%, and are 34% (English) and 74% (Reading) more likely to achieve college readiness benchmarks after just two years in debate.

### THE NUMBERS:

- The BDL comprises **12** high school teams and **five** middle school teams.
- **Six hundred** BPS students participated in the 2011-2012 academic school year.

## Group Mentoring



According to findings of the BBA's Diversity Leadership Task Force, a supportive mentoring environment is a clear indicator of career success for lawyers in general — and minority lawyers in particular. To that end, the BBA established the Group Mentoring Program in 2009, which aims to develop a new generation of diverse leaders within the BBA and Boston legal profession, and throughout the community.

In the program's three-year history, nearly 150 mentees have benefited from the experience and leadership of BBA mentors. This year, each of the program's seven mentoring groups, each led by two distinguished mentors, brought together up to 10 mentees for monthly discussions of career paths, work/life balance issues, job transition questions, and professional challenges facing women, racial and ethnic minorities, members of the LGBTQ community and persons with disabilities. In addition to monthly group meetings, participants attended various events through the Diversity & Inclusion Section, the New Lawyers Section and other organizations.

"This program creates a place where young attorneys feel welcomed and are able to gain insights and guidance from mentors who have made it to the other side, resulting in a successful, fulfilling career." — Rachael Rollins, Mentoring Co-Chair

"Joining the BBA Mentoring Program was one of the best decisions I've made in my career." — Mentee of Mentoring Group 2, Class of 2011

### COMMITTEE:

**June Duchesne**, *EMC Corporation (co-chair)*

**Rachel Rollins**, *Massachusetts Department of Transportation (co-chair)*

**Laura Unflat**, *The Law Office of Laura M. Unflat*

**Nina Parker**, *Parker & Associates*

**Aloke Chakravarty**, *U.S. Attorney's Office*

**Adrienne Walker**, *Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC*

**Cristina Gonzalez**, *Staples, Inc.*

**Randy Ravitz**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Rachel Lee**, *EMC Corporation*

**Chris Kauders**, *Pre-Trial Solutions, Inc.*

**Jessica Massey**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*

**Rick Quinby**, *Craig and Macauley Professional Corp.*

**Mala Rafik**, *Rosenfeld Rafik & Sullivan, PC*

**Kathy Henry**, *Choate Hall & Stewart LLP*

**David Eppley**, *Rackemann Sawyer & Brewster*

**Samantha Morton**, *Medical Legal Partnership, Boston*

## BBA Judicial Internship Program

In 2007, Boston Municipal Court (BMC) Judge Robert Tochka developed an internship program that helped address staff layoffs in the Massachusetts state trial courts while providing a diverse group of law students with the opportunity to work for him, observe courtroom proceedings and enhance their legal research and writing skills. As word of Judge Tochka's program spread, other BMC judges were interested and the program grew.

In 2010, BBA's Diversity & Inclusion Section heard of Judge Tochka's internship initiative and saw an opportunity for the BBA to help expand and formalize the project. Former Diversity & Inclusion Section co-chair Macey Russell and members of the section began working with Judge Tochka and Boston's law schools the following year to promote the opportunity and match more students with judges for semester-long internships.

Now a fully BBA-sponsored program, the Judicial Internship Program has placed 29 students in internships during the 2011-2012 program year. Students are required to work 15 hours per week, with one day being in court. In addition to completing assigned tasks from their judge, they are required to work on the Massachusetts Case Summaries blog, which summarizes important Massachusetts cases.

### PIPELINE AND RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE 2011-12:

**Juan Concepcion**

**Angela Gomes**, *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP*

**Mandie LeBeau**, *New England Law | Boston*



## Spending Time in the Community

Over the past year, BBA members participated in a number of community service outings.



### **Cradles to Crayons**

Bright and early on a Saturday morning in November 2011, members of the New Lawyers Section gathered at Cradles to Crayons to sort through winter pants, sweaters, jackets and other articles necessary to keep Massachusetts children warm and healthy over the cold winter months.

Cradles to Crayons is a Brighton-based charity whose mission is to provide children living in homeless or low-income situations with the necessary items they need to thrive — at home, school and play. The New Lawyers volunteers' efforts have helped over 140 local children.



### **Charles River Clean Up**

On April 21, 2012, 25 volunteers organized by the BBA's New Lawyers Section joined 4,000 other volunteers in the 13th Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup. An estimated 15 to 20 tons of rubbish was collected from along the river and its surrounding areas.

This event tied in with the BBA's Task Force on Environmental Sustainability, a presidential initiative charged with expanding the BBA's public service capacity to include volunteer opportunities benefiting the environment.



### **The Food Project**

In June 2012, the Food Project and the West Cottage Street Farm welcomed members of the Environmental Sustainability Task Force, who planted, tended, weeded and harvested fresh vegetables on one of Boston's premier urban farms. Participants also met with young members of the Food Project to share experiences and engage in a discussion of sustainable food culture, food justice, diversity and leadership.

The Food Project aims to provide urban youth with the engagement needed for personal and social change through sustainable agriculture. The project works with over 100 teenagers and thousands of volunteers to farm on 40 acres in eastern Massachusetts.

# Lawyer Referral Service

The Lawyer Referral Service (LRS), is the BBA's largest public service program, with a specific commitment to reaching historically underserved populations. The LRS Program connects callers in need of legal assistance with qualified help from private attorneys, legal services agencies, government offices and community programs.



**The 19th Annual Cambridge Carnival** on September 10, 2011, drew an estimated 150,000 people.



Held in September 2011, the **Fifth Annual Allston Village Street Fair** drew an estimated crowd of over 100,000.



In September 2011, the Harvard Square Business Association organized the **Third Annual Urban-Ag Fair** in Harvard Square.



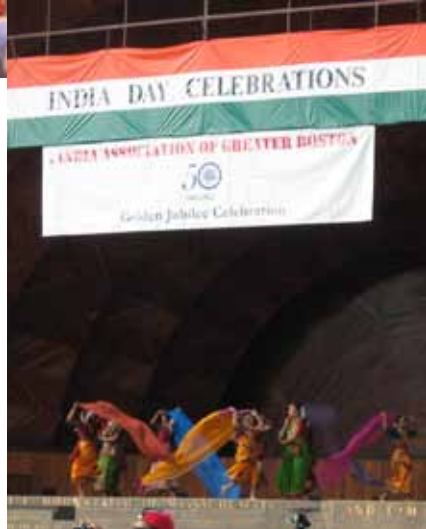
**The 24th Annual Quincy Lunar New Year Festival**, a cultural celebration organized by Quincy Asian Resources, Inc., drew nearly 10,000 attendees. Mary Lee, bilingual attorney and member of the BBA Lawyer Referral Service and the BBA Real Estate Pro Bono Committee, joined BBA staff to help answer legal questions from attendees.



Hosted by South Shore Elder Services, Inc., the **Seventh Annual "Aging is Everyone's Future"** conference took place in Randolph. Robert McGill, founder of the McGill Law Firm in Boston and a member of the BBA Lawyer Referral Service, joined BBA staff and answered questions from attendees about estate planning, wills, Medicare, healthcare proxies and the importance putting your estate in order.



**The 42nd Annual Boston Pride Festival** on June 9, 2012, drew over 15,000 people, providing an excellent opportunity for BBA staff to speak with members of the public about how the BBA Lawyer Referral Service can be a resource for the LGBTQ community.



**India Day**, celebrated August 12, 2012, is an annual event organized by the India Association of Greater Boston that typically draws over 12,000 attendees.

## LRS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

**Erin Higgins**, *Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP (chair)*  
**Cynthia MacCausland**, *Law Office of Cynthia E. MacCausland*  
**Nina Parker**, *Parker & Associates*  
**Mala Rafik**, *Rosenfeld Rafik & Sullivan, PC*  
**Dino Santangelo**, *Law Office of Dino R. Santangelo*  
**Gordon Schultz**, *Schultz & Company*



## Access to Justice: Supporting Courts & Clients

The BBA has earned the reputation of being at the forefront of promoting justice and improving access to the legal system in Massachusetts.

We are committed to advocating for adequate funding for the entire justice system, including:

- Our civil legal aid providers
- Our state courts
- The Committee for Public Counsel Services
- The district attorneys' offices

The BBA believes equal and timely access to justice is essential for those who need help in protecting their rights under the law.

### **Walk to the Hill**

The BBA is a proud member of the Equal Justice Coalition and an annual sponsor of their Walk to the Hill for Civil Legal Aid. Now in its 13th year, the event highlights the importance of state funding for civil legal aid in Massachusetts.

With over 700 attorneys participating in this year's event at the State House, the private bar's presence proved pivotal in obtaining increased funding for civil legal services for FY13, at a time when many other line items were significantly reduced. The legislature increased the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation state appropriation from \$9.5 million in FY12 to \$12 million in FY13.

### **Court Advocacy Day**

The BBA joined other members of the legal community in the second annual Court Advocacy Day. In the same spirit as Walk to the Hill, this advocacy day is an important opportunity for lawyers to emphasize the need for sustained, adequate funding for the Massachusetts Judiciary.

As BBA President Lisa C. Goodheart said, "Nothing we do as lawyers matters if our courts don't have the resources necessary to enforce the laws and the constitution, protect public safety, preserve individual liberties and resolve private disputes."

Court Advocacy Day plays a crucial role in ensuring Massachusetts courts receive the funding necessary to remain healthy and efficient.

### **Civil Right to Council**

In 2006, the American Bar Association passed a resolution supporting the right to council in civil cases where basic human needs are at stake. In response, the BBA Task Force on the Civil Right to Council recommended that pilot programs be created to assess the effects of establishing the right to council in the areas of housing, family, juvenile and immigration law. The two pilot programs received funding from the BBF, The Boston Foundation and the Massachusetts Bar Foundation. They provided full representation in eviction cases in the Quincy District Court and the Northeast Housing Court in Lawrence and Lynn, Massachusetts.

To read the full report, visit the Boston Bar Association website

# Judicial Firsts

On June 23, 2011, the BBA and the six affinity bar associations celebrated historical judicial firsts with over 100 members of the legal community. This event honored pioneer judges who diversified our courts.

The BBA's Diversity & Inclusion Section and affinity bar associations honored the following judicial pioneers:



**Denise Casper**  
*Federal Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts*  
First female African American judge to serve on the federal bench in Massachusetts



**Barbara Lenk**  
*Associate Justice, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court*  
First openly gay member to serve on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court



**Fernande "Nan" Duffly**  
*Associate Justice, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court*  
First Asian American to serve on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court



**O. Rogeriee Thompson**  
*Federal Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit*  
First African American and second female to serve on the First Circuit



**Roderick Ireland**  
*Chief Justice, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court*  
First African American chief justice to serve on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court



# Honoring Significant Achievements & Inspiring Others

## The Boston Bar Association Thurgood Marshall Award

*The BBA's Thurgood Marshall Award was established to recognize private attorneys in Greater Boston for their extraordinary efforts to enhance the human dignity of others through improving, developing or delivering civil or criminal legal services to low-income clients in Massachusetts.*

The BBA presented the 2011 Thurgood Marshall Award to Mary K. Ryan on October 13, 2011. Mary is a litigation partner at Nutter McClennen & Fish and a passionate and effective advocate for making our courts and our legal system accessible to poor people.

During Mary's BBA presidency (1997-1998), she convened a task force that performed the first comprehensive study on the issue of unrepresented litigants in the Massachusetts courts. She then went on to chair the Pro Bono Committee of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts from 1999-2011. Mary was appointed co-chair of the BBA Task Force on Civil Right to Council in 2006. The report, *Gideon's New Trumpet: Expanding the Civil Right to Council in Massachusetts*, was produced under her leadership.

Mary has also worked via the American Bar Association to advance pro bono and access to justice. A member of the ABA House of Delegates, she currently serves on the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono & Public Service. Mary has been generous in providing pro bono services in her individual capacity, as co-counsel in Connor B. v. Patrick, and as counsel to a number of indigent tenants under the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association's Eviction Defense Project. In addition, she has served as counsel to a number of immigrants facing deportation in connection with the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project.



The Boston Bar Association John G. Brooks Legal Services Award



*The John G. Brooks Legal Services Award is named for John Graham Brooks, a past president of the BBA, former Legal Services Corporation board member and staunch advocate for legal services. Established in 1988, the award honors career legal services lawyers working on the front.*

The BBA presented the 2011 John G. Brooks Legal Services Award to Manisha Bhatt on October 13, 2011. Manisha is a senior attorney working in the Family Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services, where she represents survivors of domestic violence in divorce, paternity and abuse-prevention proceedings.

Manisha has been a leader in creating bridges to diverse legal communities. She was the principal architect of “Know Your Rights,” an award-winning program developed by the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston (SABA GB). In 2007, SABA GB named her Board Member of the Year, and in 2009, she won the North American South Asian Bar Association’s Cornerstone Award. Manisha serves on the Board of Editors of the Boston Bar Journal and is co-chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the BBA’s Litigation Section.

The Boston Bar Foundation Public Service Award



*Each year at the John & Abigail Adams Benefit, the BBF presents its Public Service Award to a business or civic leader who has shown exemplary leadership in community service and philanthropy. The award not only acknowledges the personal civic leadership of the honoree, but also seeks to recognize socially responsible corporate practices.*

On January 28, 2012, the BBF recognized Paul Grogan, president & CEO of The Boston Foundation, for his commitment to the Boston community, exemplary leadership of The Boston Foundation and support of the role legal assistance plays in preventing homelessness. As the leader of the region’s largest public charity and grant maker, Paul has made a significant and enduring contribution to the community through high-impact initiatives in housing, the arts, education reform, workforce development and civic engagement.

Beacon Award for Diversity + Inclusion

The BBA established the Beacon Award in 2010 to recognize exceptional leadership on diversity strategies that will have a lasting impact on the Greater Boston legal profession. This year marked the BBA’s second annual Beacon Award, held on November 16, 2011, at the Boston Harbor Hotel. Over 250 guests from the Boston legal community attended.

From a pool of over 50 phenomenal nominees, all taking positive steps to promote diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, the BBA honored Northeastern School of Law for exceptional leadership in this area.

“The fact that Northeastern University School of Law fosters a culture of diversity and inclusion is itself impressive, as documented by the numbers,” said Wendell Taylor, co-chair of the 2011 Beacon Award Committee. “Even more impressive is the number of Northeastern University School of Law alumni making a serious commitment to replicating that culture within their own professional venues.”



THE BBA SALUTES THIS YEAR’S BEACON AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE WHO CAREFULLY EXAMINED COUNTLESS NOMINATIONS:

- Julia Cosentino**, *Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP (co-chair)*
- Wendell Taylor**, *Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (co-chair)*
- Maura Healey**, *Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General*
- William “Mo” Cowan**, *Office of the Governor*
- Kristen Campbell**, *Staples, Inc.*
- John Chu**, *Chu, Ring & Hazel LLP*
- Renée Landers**, *Suffolk University Law School*
- Roberto Bracerias**, *Goodwin Procter LLP*
- E. Macey Russell**, *Choate Hall & Stewart LLP*

Citation of Judicial Excellence



At the annual Law Day Dinner on May 17, 2012, the BBA presented a Citation of Judicial Excellence to the Honorable Ralph D. Gants for his dedicated pursuit of justice as an associate justice of the Superior Court, administrative justice of the Superior Court’s Business Litigation Session and associate justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, and for his committed leadership as co-chair of the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission.

“In his leadership role on the Access to Justice Commission, Justice Gants has demonstrated extraordinary energy and creativity in pursuing fresh ideas and new initiatives to enhance meaningful access to justice for all. His zeal for the essential work of promoting justice is truly remarkable, and he has distinguished himself as a driving force for the development of better and broader ways to deliver justice and protect fundamental rights.” – BBA President Lisa C. Goodheart

# Thank You to Our Volunteers

## M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program Volunteers

Warren Agin, Swiggart & Agin, LLC  
Shemane Amin, Brown Rudnick LLP  
Mary Artesani, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Hon. Frank Bailey, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
J.T. Baker  
C Kimberly Bakeberg, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc.  
Gina Barbieri, Mirick O'Connell - Westborough Office  
Alberto Barrera, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Jordan Baumer, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
John Beccia, Boston Private Financial Holdings, Inc  
De Bellofatto, Sun Life Financial  
Mark Berman, Nixon Peabody LLP  
James Bonfanti, Eastern Bank  
Hon. Henry Boroff, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Janet Bostwick, Janet E. Bostwick, PC  
Regina Brooks, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Leslie Buckler  
Heather Cheney, Boston Financial Management, Inc.  
Martha Coakley, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Michele Collins, MetLife  
Paul Connors, Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP  
Julian Cooney  
Jaime D'Almeida, Duff & Phelps  
Jeanne Darcey, Sullivan & Worcester LLP  
John Davis, Cooley Shrair PC  
Kristin Davis, K & L Gates LLP  
Krikor Dekermenjian, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Mark DiOrio, Bulfinch Companies, Inc.  
Mary Donnellan, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
James Downey, Citi Bank  
Jennifer A. English, Citi Bank  
Anne J. Farina, Sun Life Financial  
Hon. Joan Feeney, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Christopher Fitzgerald  
John Fitzgerald, Office of U.S. Trustee  
David Gabor, Wagner Law Group, PC\*  
Katherine Garavaglia  
Galen Gilbert, Gilbert & O'Bryan LLP

Lane Goldberg  
Christopher Gosselin, Sullivan & Worcester LLP  
Alyse Gould  
Michelle Greco, Sun Life Financial  
Maria Grinko, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
William Harrington, Office of U.S. Trustee  
Hon. Melvin Hoffman, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
James Kalec  
Elizabeth Katz, Ostrander Law Office  
Noah Kaufman, Foley Hoag LLP  
Ann Kelley, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Marti Kopacz, Brant Point Advisors LLC  
Christine Kuta, Kuta Intellectual Property Law LLC  
Donald Lassman, Law Office of Donald R. Lassman  
Jaclyn LaTessa, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Joanne Lau, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Michael Licker, Foley Hoag LLP\*  
John Loughnane, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC\*  
Ben Loveland, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP  
Lucy Lovrien, Lucy D. Lovrien, Attorney at Law  
Halina Magerowski, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Garrett Marques  
Clive Martin, Robinson & Cole LLP-Boston  
Martha Claire Masinton, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Jessica Massey, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
David Mawhinney, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Stacie McHale, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
Sara Meyers, Ropes & Gray LLP  
Richard Mikels, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo P.C.  
John Morrier, Casner & Edwards, LLP  
Joseph Morrissey, JSW Morrissey & Associates  
Amanda Muller  
Melissa O'Berg, Rocket Software, Inc.\*  
Michael Pappone, Goodwin Procter LLP  
Frederick Paulsen, Burns & Levinson LLP  
Vanessa Peck, Goulston & Storrs - A Professional Corporation

Benjamin Percy  
Doe Pichard, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Steven Pohl, Brown Rudnick LLP  
Ashley Quigless, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP  
Kathleen Rahbany, Craig and Macauley Professional Corporation  
Diane Rallis, Holland & Knight, LLP  
Lynne Riley, Riley Law Group  
Meghan Roche, Law Office of Meghan Roche  
Andrea Roller, Duff & Phelps  
Mallory Rott  
Adam Ruttenberg, Looney & Grossman LLP  
Natalie Sawyer, Murphy & King, P.C.  
Bernie Schilling, Liberty Mutual Group  
Jill Schuler, Ropes and Gray LLP  
Krista Selnau  
Mary Sharon, U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit  
Mackenzie Shea, K & L Gates LLP  
Richard Sheils, Bowditch & Dewey, LLP - Worcester Office  
Jeffrey Sternklar, Duane Morris LLP  
Mary Sullivan, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Alexis Theriault, Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP  
Arwen Thoman, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General  
Adrienne Walker, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo P.C.  
Lynne Xerras, Holland & Knight, LLP  
Jenny Yandell, Parker & Associates  
Benjamin Zalman, U.S. Bankruptcy Court  
James Zuckernik, Robinson & Cole LLP-Boston

\*Has volunteered for more than one program in 2011-2012

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