

A Platform to Expand Potential

IN THE EVENING OF THE last day of Pennsylvania/New Jersey bar exams in the summer of 2006, my dad and a family friend, Don, took me to dinner to lift my broken spirits and aid my emotional recovery.

When my classmates and I recall that night, we all describe the same feeling of mental exhaustion and crippling self-doubt that accompanied the ride home and days that followed. As I sat in the Anchorage in Somers Point, N.J., eating Buffalo wings and otherwise licking my wounds, Don espoused his confidence that I had passed, and even bet me \$50 that I would be getting good results in the fall. In my fatigued state, the bet actually made me feel a lot better, reasoning that worst-case scenario I would win 50 bucks. He was right, and I had to pay up. As dinner continued, Don touched upon some-

By Edward F. Beitz



thing that has stuck with me ever since. I don't remember his exact words that night, but it was along the lines of, "I know you're probably looking forward to a paying job as much as anything else, but I hope you recognize the opportunity you have to do some really interesting things with your life."

A jitney driver in Atlantic City for years, Don always encouraged my decision to go to law school. He made a good living, and has more than his share of interesting stories, but not nearly all of them the good kind of interesting.

I am sure Don did not have this precisely in mind back at the Anchorage, but last month I had the opportunity do one of these foretold "interesting things" with my life. As chair of the Young Lawyers Division, I was asked to represent the Philadelphia Bar Association at a natural-

ization ceremony in U.S. District Court. If you have never attended a naturalization ceremony and watched new Americans take the oath of citizenship, I cannot recommend this highly enough. I have spent hours telling my friends and family about this event, the people I got to meet, the places they came from, and the stories they shared with me. My friends asked if I was the best our country could come up with to greet its new citizens. It is a fair (and funny) question, and thankfully the answer is no. The ceremony was dutifully presided over by the U.S. District Court Judge Mitchell Goldberg and featured U.S. District Court Judge L. Felipe Restrepo as a guest speaker. Judge Goldberg's story of his grandfather's escape from the czar's Russia, and Judge Restrepo's personal experience with immigration to the United States, made them ideal representatives to preside over this emotional occasion. The chance to share my own family's immigration story with these new citizens, and congratulate them on their newly held rights and responsibilities was an experience I will never forget.

It is easy to become focused on some of the monotonous aspects of a lawyer's life. Anybody who sat through New Jersey's now-retired ICLE program can attest to that. Keeping track of hours and CLE credits may be the sour part of the job, but they are the price to pay in finding the sweet. For me, there was the first time I second-chaired a trial, and the second time, and third and fourth, and cross-examined an expert before a Philadelphia jury. To call these experiences "interesting" is an understatement. Whenever I find myself taking them for granted, I think of my conversation with Don at the Anchorage, and remember that there are people who work their entire lives without knowing the pride (and frankly the rush) of entering a courtroom as an attorney.

The reality is that some attorneys do not feel this way about their jobs. To those colleagues I know well enough, I try to share the perspective that we have the ability to do truly interesting things with professional our lives, for ourselves and for the benefit of those in need. Outside of work, I have found many of those experiences through the Philadelphia Bar Association. Certainly, the Bar Association is not the only place to find memorable legal experiences outside the

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Nonprofit Funding is Examined at YLD Program

By Lauren A. Strebel

GAIL BOWER HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE was getting herself into when she was asked to join the board of directors of a nonprofit organization. Bower, author of "How to Jump-Start Your Sponsorship Strategy in Tough Times," recently led a conversation about ways nonprofits can generate sustainable diverse revenue streams at a Young Lawyers Division Live, Lunch and Learn program.

Nonprofit organizations and their board members have mutually beneficial relationships. The board of directors is central to the nonprofit's operations. Ideally, the board brings a variety expertise to organization including legal, managerial, or field-specific skills. Board members open up their network to the organization, which provides a broader base for donors, services, and volunteers. At the same time, board members gain from the service they give to a nonprofit. They can feel good supporting a cause while simultaneously developing new skills, polishing leadership abilities, and building their professional network.

Typically, a nonprofit's biggest challenge is fundraising. Nonprofit revenue is either contributed, by grant or gift, or it is earned income. Grants come from a number of sources including the government, corporations, and foundations. Nonprofits can earn grants by writing a proposal and explaining why the organization needs the money, how it will use it, and what it means for society. A great source on grants is www.foundationcenter.org.

Gifts come in forms of cash or in kind, such as a product or service. Corporations can be a great source of gifts. Oftentimes, corporations will match what an organization raises. Corporations are also a great source for volunteers. Individuals also provide donations, and can be reached through email or direct mail.

Nonprofits earn income by establishing corporate partnerships. In a corporate partnership, the nonprofit and the corporation bring something to the relationship to drive an outcome. The most notable example is cause marketing; where the sale of a product triggers a donation to a nonprofit. Nonprofits can also make money through sales of goods or services.

Each form of revenue has its pros and

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SABA to Host Evening with Preet Bharara March 4

THE SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA presents “An Evening with Preet Bharara” at the National Constitution Center on Tuesday, March 4. Bharara is the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, appointed by President Barack Obama in 2009.

Since his appointment to the office, Bharara has overseen the investigation and litigation of all criminal and civil cases brought on behalf of the U.S. in the Southern District of New York. The office’s 210 Assistant U.S. Attorneys handle a high volume of cases involving domestic and international terrorism, narcotics and arms trafficking, financial and healthcare fraud, public corruption, gang violence, organized crime, and civil rights violations.

Bharara recently made headlines for indicting the Indian diplomat, Devyani Khobragade, and charging two Bitcoin executives for conspiring to commit money laundering. Bharara will address the topic of business ethics, and the event promises to be a one-of-a-kind opportunity to hear about the renewed focus on large-scale,

sophisticated financial frauds from the voices on the front line. Introductory remarks will be given by U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Zane Memeger. A cocktail reception will begin at 6 p.m. and the first 75 guests will receive a free drink ticket. The program will begin at 7 p.m. following the cocktail reception. Discounted parking will be available at the National Constitution Center. Space will be limited, therefore attendees are encouraged to RSVP early.

Barristers’ Scholarship Gala May 17

Each year, the Barristers’ Association of Philadelphia awards scholarships to students of color attending area law schools at its annual Scholarship Gala. These scholarships are presented to students who demonstrate leadership ability and academic achievement, as well as a commitment to community service.

Seeking to reward students who will become future leaders in the profession, the Scholarship Gala presents students to the legal community to be recognized and

celebrated alongside more accomplished members of the profession at the event. This year’s Scholarship Gala will be held at the Hyatt at Penn’s Landing on Saturday, May 17. This black-tie event promises dinner, dancing and celebrating with the luminaries of the profession alongside picturesque views of the skyline.

Law students interested in applying for this scholarship must submit their resume, current transcript, head shot and an essay which addresses how the student will benefit from the scholarship, the student’s leadership ability, academic achievement, and commitment to community service. In addition to application materials, applicants may also be selected for an interview. The scholarship application period runs through April 11, 2014. Applications received after 5 p.m. on April 11 will not be considered. For more information, please visit www.phillybarristers.com, the Barristers’ Facebook page, or send an email to barristers scholarship@gmail.com.

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momentum of this effort. We are planning to host a summit to bring all of the “Adopt-a-School” volunteers and participants together to harness the collective energy and solidify it as actionable items.

One of the things we will focus on is how to make this a long-term commitment versus a “one and done” approach. We also will look at strategic partnerships between law firms and schools, as it makes sense for them to be paired appropriately. For example, I hope that the larger firms will “adopt” larger schools and perhaps the smaller firms and public interest groups will get involved with smaller schools.

Lastly, I want to again thank everyone who has expressed interest in being a part of this important and growing initiative. It will take all of us as the city’s collective legal community to make a positive impact on our public education system. We have phenomenal talent and resources among us and let me



John Hardin Young, chair of the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Election Law, met with Chancellor William P. Fedullo at a Feb. 20 ABA Town Hall Meeting on Voter ID issues held at the Philadelphia Bar Association.

remind you we’re not getting involved to feel good about ourselves, but rather because it’s the right thing to do. If you are interested in getting involved, please visit philadelphiabar.org or email Charlie Klitsch, Director of Public and Legal

Services, at cklitsch@philabar.org.

William P. Fedullo (williamfedullo@gmail.com), counsel to Rosen, Schafer & DiMeo LLP, is Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

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workplace. Once I volunteered for a political campaign to watch polls, and ended up appearing in Election Court alongside the attorneys for then-Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

For young attorneys, however, I do believe the Bar Association and Young Lawyers Division provide a good

platform to further explore their professional potential with a reasonable time commitment. I share these thoughts, in part, to express my gratitude to the Bar Association for my role in last month’s naturalization ceremony, and other memorable experiences, like participating in a Q&A with former Gov. Ed Rendell and having a front-row seat to hear U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor speak to the Association. The

Bar Association has also provided me the opportunity to connect with city school students and spark their interest in the law. To any young attorney looking for moments like these in your professional career, I encourage you to reach out to me and ask about getting involved.

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Federal Courts

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Philadelphia. There are four additional names submitted for the five other openings on the court. Having recently just gone through the nomination process himself, Judge Restrepo remarked on how slow it can be. It generally takes 18 months from the initial interview until a nominee gets a vote on the floor. Judge Restrepo also noted that two magistrate judges will soon be joining the court in the spring.

Judge Restrepo also spoke about the court’s re-entry program, which is overseen by him and Judge Timothy Rice. These are offered to recently released, high-risk violent offenders. The objective of the program is to reduce recidivism. Thus far it has been very effective in doing so, and in placing people transitioning back to society.

Finally, Judge Rufe discussed a few trends that were troubling, if not annoying. The first was the over-broad use of motions to seal by practitioners. She observed that litigants often want to keep the details of their disputes confidential, particularly in employment and trade secret cases. But the panel reiterated that lawsuits are public affairs, and frequently many of these requests to seal do not even address the confidentiality factors from *Pansy v. Borough of Stroudsburg*, 23 F.3d 772 (3d Cir. 1994). The second item was declarations by lawyers that are purportedly offered as evidence. The third was the increasingly abused use of the phrase “incorporation by reference.”

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