Pennsylvania Bar Foundation to Hold ‘NightOut’ in Harrisburg

The Pennsylvania Bar Foundation (PBF) will hold its annual “NightOut” on Nov. 19 at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel (site of the Nov. 20 PBA House of Delegates Meeting).

The keynote speaker is Tony Mauro, who has covered the U.S. Supreme Court for 35 years, first for Gannett News Service and USA Today and, since 2000 for Legal Times, National Law Journal and the Supreme Court Brief. Washingtonian magazine has twice included Mauro on its list of the top 50 journalists in Washington. He is a longtime member of the steering committee of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and, in 2010, was inducted into the Freedom of Information Act Hall of Fame in recognition of his advocacy for openness in courts and other institutions.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by mentalist and lawyer Joe Curcillo, “The MindShark.” Tickets are $100 and include a cash bar and three-course meal with a choice of entrees. A portion of the ticket price qualifies as a charitable deduction. Contributions help support the statewide loan repayment assistance program administered by the PBF and the Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers’ Trust Accounts Board (IOLTA), which works to make a career in public service more affordable for those attorneys who provide direct civil legal services to Pennsylvania’s most vulnerable through one of the 38 IOLTA-funded civil legal services organizations across Pennsylvania.

Visit the PBF website at www.pabarfound.org to register online or to download a reservation form to mail or fax. Space is limited. For more information call the PBF at 888-238-3036.

Making a Difference

The Pennsylvania Bar News column that highlights Pennsylvania attorneys who make a difference in their communities by providing extraordinary pro bono service and/or other community services in the public interest.

Bradley D. Remick

Philadelphia

Bradley D. Remick is a shareholder in the Philadelphia office of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin PC.

Describe your community-service work.

I volunteer for the Penn Wynne Overbrook Hills Fire Company (Lower Merion Fire Department), where I was recently promoted to lieutenant. I devote approximately 15 hours per week to firefighting.

Since joining the fire department I’ve responded to almost every type of situation, from residential and commercial fires to car crashes and bomb scares — though I still haven’t rescued any cats from trees. I hold more than 50 firefighting and rescue certifications. In July 2008 I was named Volunteer of the Week by the Main Line Times, and in 2010 I received the PECO Volunteer Firefighter Award as part of the National Liberty Museum’s Public Service Heroes Awards of Valor program.

Why do you participate in community-service work?

What guy can resist playing with fire trucks, water, fire extinguishers, burning gasoline, axes and chainsaws? My real answer lies somewhere between a compulsion to help others and a subconscious fascination with all things incendiary.

How did you first become involved?

In 2006 I wandered over to our local fire house to take some photographs. I love photography and I thought it would be fun to get some photos of the fire trucks. I had a friendly conversation with the deputy chief, and when I was leaving he asked me why I didn’t join the department. I laughed at the time, but then I thought about it — a lot. Like millions of Americans, the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the sense of loss I felt at the time were still very fresh for me. On 9/11, 343 FDNY [Fire Department, City of New York] firefighters lost their lives. It has always boggled my mind that those men and women ran into buildings when everyone else was running out. So I started my firefighting education and practical training at the age of 44 and found myself in a new peer group with an average age of about 21.

How does your community service overlap with your legal practice?

As a member of my firm’s product-liability practice group I defend regarding a wide variety of industrial products and systems. My firefighting interests often intersect with my legal work. For example, I frequently lecture and provide counsel to clients with regard to the investigation of residential and industrial fires and the role and training of the firefighter in evidence preservation.

What have been the personal rewards?

It may sound cliché, but the rewards are immeasurable. The friendships I’ve made within the fire department and having the opportunity to contribute in some small way to the greater good of the community give me a terrific feeling. I’ve long believed that everyone should give back to their community. This allows me to do so in some small measure.