



Montgomery

On Nov. 6, The Diversity Committee of the Montgomery Bar Association hosted a networking forum/meet and greet cocktail reception for attorneys and law students of diverse backgrounds. This event is just one of several planned to encourage diversity in Montgomery County's law firms by the Diversity Committee.

The Montgomery Bar Association is holding a "Why Vote" YouTube video contest, which carries a \$1,000 cash prize. By encouraging citizens to express their views and ideas about voting, the MBA hopes to increase patriotism and involvement throughout the community.

Schuylkill

The Schuylkill County Bar Association announced the application period for its scholarships to benefit law students from the county. This is the 31st year for the scholarship aid program. Last year, awards were made to 15 law school students.

The Schuylkill County Bar Association held its annual president's dinner and awarded members for 35 years of service.

The Schuylkill County Bar Association recently provided 15 bicycles, several tri-cycles, and helmets to local foster children. The donation was part of the association's Public Relations/Community Development Committee efforts.

Washington

The Washington County Bar Association partnered with the Washington County Community Foundation and the United Way of Washington County to provide a "Law School for Non-Profit Organizations" on Sept. 24. The full-day conference was designed to educate local nonprofit organization staff members, volunteers and board members, as well as attorneys and CPAs, about legal and tax issues. ■

County Bars Join PBA Military and Veterans Affairs Committee in Education Efforts Based on New *Lawyers' Military Desk Reference*

The Pennsylvania Bar Association Military and Veterans Affairs Committee recently hosted a statewide telecast of a CLE program on assisting military personnel with legal needs. The program, titled "Current Military Legal Issues Facing Civilian Attorneys," offered four total CLE credits and was based on the PBA's new *Lawyers' Military Desk Reference*, which constituted the written material for the course.

The reference, available in several formats from the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, has been featured in one-hour CLE sessions for the Washington, Monroe, Lancaster and Wayne County Bars.

The publication is a joint project of the PBA Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee, the Military Affairs Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. PBA Pro Bono Coordinator David Trevaskis and Committee members are available to come to county sites to conduct awareness training on this resource, which is being used to help address the legal needs of our Pennsylvania military personnel.

The manual is designed to assist both the lawyer familiar with how a servicemember's status can affect civil and criminal matters and the lawyer who is unfamiliar with these issues. Although not intended to be an all-inclusive resource, the manual serves as an overview of issues such as the Uniform Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA), Veterans' rights and benefits, family law issues, disability



issues and miscellaneous matters affecting military personnel and their families, including traffic law and consumer law issues. In addition, the manual contains a comprehensive resource section containing Web site addresses and points of contact relating to active duty/Reserve, retiree, substance abuse and mental health, Veterans' Affairs and organizations, educational and employment benefits, and a summary of VA benefits for National Guard and Reserve personnel.

The PBA Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee welcomes all attorneys throughout Pennsylvania who are willing to assist servicemembers with legal problems to join the Committee and the Legal Assistance to Military Personnel (LAMP) program by contacting David Trevaskis at david.trevaskis@pabar.org or (800) 932-0311, Ext. 2236. ■