



February 6, 2012

Dear Colleague:

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the Pennsylvania Bar Association Minority Bar Committee's Twenty-Fourth Annual Minority Attorney Conference. This year's conference will be held in Pittsburgh at the Omni William Penn Hotel on March 15-16, 2012. To follow-up from last year's conference, the theme for this year's conference is ***Optimizing Opportunities in Tough Times***.

The Minority Bar Committee is very concerned with the economic downturn upon our profession and how minority attorneys may optimize the new opportunities available as a result of the changing economic climate. It is with this in mind that we offer you a CLE bargain! Because of the generous support of our sponsors, we are able to provide a top-notch program with a highly discounted rate for our attendees. You will not be able to find such quality and content in a conference of this caliber at such a low price. The speakers chosen for this year's conference are well-known in their respective fields. As you will come to find, they are very informative, engaging, and thought provoking.

Due to the popularity of last year's conference, we will have 10 CLE credits made available to you over our full two day program. As part of your registration, we will include complimentary breakfast and lunch both days. On Thursday evening, I hope you will join us at our networking reception. This is a great opportunity to mix and mingle with your fellow lawyers and our dynamic speakers over heavy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.

Further, we are pleased to announce that as an extra value added benefit to attending the conference, the Honorable Norma Shapiro and the PBA Leadership Recruitment and Development Committee shall kick off the conference by sponsoring a program entitled ***Paths to Leadership*** on Thursday morning starting at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 9:45 a.m. Anyone interested in leadership in the PBA, either now or any time in the future, should plan to attend this worthwhile program.

The Minority Bar Committee is pleased to present its annual A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award to Eric W. Springer, Esq., at our luncheon on Friday. Mr. Springer has demonstrated true dedication to the legal profession and the minority community through civil, community, and legal service. In addition, Dean Linda Ammons of Widener University Law School has agreed to serve as our keynote speaker during the March 16 luncheon. Drawing from her vast knowledge and experience, she will share her valuable insights with us.

Please find attached the agenda and registration materials. We hope to see you in Pittsburgh!

Very Truly Yours,

Wesley R. Payne, IV, Esquire
Co-Chair, PBA Minority Bar Committee

Jacqueline B. Martinez, Esq.
Co-Chair PBA Minority Bar Committee

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**Twenty-Fourth Annual
PBA Minority Attorney Conference**

Optimizing Opportunities in Tough Times

**Omni William Penn Hotel
530 William Penn Place
Pittsburgh, PA
March 15-16, 2012**

AGENDA

Thursday, March 15

8:00 – 9:45 Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:45 Paths to Leadership Sponsored by: PBA Leadership Recruitment & Development Committee

9:45 – 10:00 Welcoming Remarks

Wesley H. Payne, Esq., Co-Chair, PBA Minority Bar Committee

Jacqueline B. Martinez, Esq., Co-Chair, PBA Minority Bar Committee

10:00 – 12:00 (2 substantive CLE credits)

Adjudications, Convictions, Pleas & Their Consequences

Moderators: Beverly H. Rampaul, Esq., Lancaster County Public Defender's Office, Lancaster

Franklin L. Robinson, Jr., Esq., Solo Practitioner, Pgh

Panelists:

Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark., Allegheny Cty Ct of Common Pleas, Pgh

Khadija Diggs-Terry, Esq., Allegheny Cty Public Defender's Ofc, Pgh

Frank B. McWilson, Esq., Allegheny Cty Public Defender's Ofc, Pgh

George D. Mosee, Jr., Esq., Philadelphia District Attorney's Ofc, Phila

Hon. Joseph Williams, III, Allegheny Cty Ct of Common Pleas, Pgh

Hon. Dwayne Woodruff, Allegheny Cty Ct of Common Pleas, Pgh

12:00 – 12:45 Luncheon

12:45 – 2:45 (2 substantive CLE credits)

Health Care Reform Revisited

Moderator: Tsiwen M. Law, Esq., Law & Associates LLC, Phila

Panelists:

Aryanna Abouzari, Esq., U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Phila

Vikram S. Mangalmurti, Esq., Office of Health Care Reform,

Highmark, Pittsburgh

Gloria Yu, Esq., Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

2:45 – 3:00 Break

3:00 – 4:00 (1 ethics CLE credit)

Social Media: Ethical Considerations in the Electronic Age

Moderator: Stephanie Latimore, Esq., Legislative Reference Bureau, Harrisburg

Panelists:

Rodney R. Akers, Esq., PA Office of General Counsel, Harrisburg

Riley H. Ross III, Esq., Tucker Law Group LLC, Philadelphia

4:00 – 5:30 (1½ substantive CLE credits)

Marcellus Shale: Emerging Areas of Law & Economic Growth

Moderator: Barbara Griffin, Esq., Allegheny County Bar Foundation, Pgh

Panelists:

Edward Yim, Esq., Babst Calland Clements & Zomnir PC, Pittsburgh

James R. Ladlee, Esq., Assoc. Dir., Penn State Marcellus Center for Outreach & Research, University Park

Mark C. Scheuerman, Esq., Talisman Energy USA Inc., Warrendale

5:30 – 7:30

Networking Reception

Jazz Band: *The Jazz Pros*

Friday, March 16

8:00 – 8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 Opening Remarks

Matthew J. Creme, Jr., Esq., President, Pennsylvania Bar Association

8:45 – 10:15 a.m. (1½ substantive CLE credits)

Law, Politics, Education and Gaps: Their Effect on the Lives of Minority Children

Moderator: Jettie D. Newkirk, Esq., Solo Practitioner, Philadelphia

Panelists:

Michael Churchill, Esq., Public Interest Law Ctr of Philadelphia, Phila

Dr. Linda Lane, Superintendent, School District of Pittsburgh, Pgh

Deborah Wei, School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia

Ira Weiss, Esq., Weiss Law Offices, Pittsburgh

10:15 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 12:30 (2 substantive CLE credits)

The State of Immigration Law

Moderator: Jacqueline B. Martinez, Esq., JBM Legal LLC, Pgh

Panelists:

Andrew Hoover, Legislative Director, ACLU of PA, Harrisburg

Teresa M. Rodriguez, Esq., Friends of Farmworkers, Inc., Phila

Prof. Sheila I. Vélez-Martinez, Univ. of Pgh School of Law, Pgh

12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Luncheon

Award Presentation

A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. Award

Recipient: Eric W. Springer, Esq., Retired, Horty Springer & Mattern PC

Keynote Address

Dean Linda Ammons, Widener University School of Law, Wilmington, DE & Harrisburg PA Campuses

***SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA BAR
FOUNDATION FOR SPONSORING THE 24th
ANNUAL CONFERENCE ALONG WITH ALL OUR
SUPPORTING FIRMS & FRIENDS***

The Pennsylvania Bar Institute is approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited CLE provider. The PBA Minority Attorney Conference has been approved by the Pennsylvania CLE Board for up to 10 CLE Credits (9 hours of substantive and 1 hour of ethics). Questions concerning the CLE credits can be directed to the PBI Customer Service Department at 1-800-247-4724.

**Twenty-Fourth Annual
 Pennsylvania Bar Association
 2012 MINORITY ATTORNEY CONFERENCE
 Omni William Penn Hotel, 530 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh
 March 15-16, 2012
 Registration Form**

NAME _____ NICKNAME (BADGE PURPOSE) _____

ADDRESS _____

SUPREME COURT ID NUMBER _____ PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

___ Check here if you are disabled and require special services. Attach a written description of your needs.

___ Check here if you are attending the **PBA Leadership Recruitment & Development Program** on Thursday, March 15.

REGISTRATION FEES:

Two-day Registration (Thurs. **and** Fri.) – \$225.00 _____ (\$275.00 after March 8) _____ (includes 10 CLE Credits & all meal functions)

Thursday-only Registration – \$175 _____ (\$190.00 after March 8) _____ (includes 6½ CLE credits, continental breakfast, luncheon & reception)

Friday-only Registration – \$135.00 _____ (\$150.00 after March 8) _____ (includes 3½ CLE credits, continental breakfast & keynote luncheon)

___ Two-day Law Student Registration (Thurs. **and** Fri.) - \$30.00 (includes educational sessions & all meal functions)

___ One-day Law Student Registration (Thurs. **or** Fri. – circle one) - \$20.00 (includes educational sessions & meal functions for that day)

___ Reception-only, Thursday - \$40.00

___ Luncheon-only, Friday - \$50.00

Meal Functions

I will be attending: *(for planning purposes please indicate the meal functions you will attend)*

MARCH 15

___ Continental Breakfast

___ Luncheon

___ Reception

MARCH 16

___ Continental Breakfast

___ Keynote Luncheon

Check here for Vegetarian Lunch

PAYMENT METHOD

Enclose a check made payable to:
 Pennsylvania Bar Association
 100 South St., P.O. Box 186
 Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186

Or Charge my: MasterCard Visa AMEX Discover

Acct# _____

Expiration Date _____ Authorized Amount _____

Signature _____

Need Hotel Accommodations? Overnight lodging arrangements should be made directly with Omni Reservations at 1-800-843-6664 and identify yourself as a participant with the Pennsylvania Bar Association Minority Attorney Conference before February 17, 2012, to obtain the special group rate. Group Rate (Single/Double): \$149 per night, plus taxes.

Return to: Meetings Department, PBA, P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186 or fax credit card registration to 717-213-2507. Written cancellations must be received before the close of business on March 8, 2012. Upon receipt, a refund will be issued minus a \$75 administrative fee. After March 8, no refunds will be issued. For more information, call PBA Membership Services Center at 1-800-932-0311.