



# Pennsylvania Bar Association

## Young Lawyers Division Executive Council 2018-2019

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### **Alaina C. Koltash** **Young Lawyers Division Chair**

Alaina C. Koltash is executive director and legal counsel for the House Education Committee. Previously, she was assistant counsel for the Governor's Office of General Counsel in the Pennsylvania Department of Education, where she focused on financially-distressed school districts, school finance, early childhood education and legislation.

Alaina currently serves as the chair-elect of the Young Lawyers Division. She is also the secretary/treasurer of the Widener Commonwealth School of Law Alumni Association and is a member of the James S. Bowman Inn of Court.

Alaina graduated *magna cum laude* from the Widener Commonwealth School of Law and from Penn State University.

Pennsylvania House Education Committee

[akoltash@gmail.com](mailto:akoltash@gmail.com)

(717) 787-5500

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### **Jennifer Menichini** **Young Lawyers Division Chair-elect**

Jennifer Menichini is an attorney with Joyce, Carmody & Moran PC, which has offices in Pittston and Scranton. Jennifer's practice involves representing clients in all aspects of litigation in state and federal court, focusing primarily on labor, employment and civil rights matters.

Jennifer currently serves as the PBA YLD chair-elect and serves as a Zone 5 Delegate to the House of Delegates. She also serves as statewide co-chair of the High School Mock Trial Competition and as the Outreach and Diversity Subcommittee Chair for the PBA Federal Practice Committee. She is also the immediate past president of the Middle District of Pennsylvania Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. She is an active member of the Lackawanna Bar Association, previously serving as president of the Young Lawyers Division. She was awarded the 2017 Margaret M. "Peggy" Gavin Award. She is also a member of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association and Monroe County Bar Association. She was also a member of the PBA Bar Leadership Institute class in 2015.

Jennifer graduated from Duquesne University School of Law, where she served as case note editor for the *Duquesne Law Review*, and she graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Scranton.

Joyce, Carmody & Moran PC

[jm@joycecarmody.com](mailto:jm@joycecarmody.com)

(570) 602-3560

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### **Jonathan D. Koltash** **Young Lawyers Division Immediate Past Chair**

Jonathan D. Koltash, senior counsel at the Pennsylvania Department of Health, is an active PBA member, serving as the co-chair of the YLD Statewide Mock Trial Competition and a voting member of the Board of Governors and the House of Delegates, the association's governing bodies. He is also the current chair of the Government Lawyers Committee, a past chair of the Administrative Law Section and a graduate of the Bar Leadership Institute, class of 2012-13.

Beyond his work with PBA, Koltash is an active alumnus of the Widener University Commonwealth Law School. He is president of the alumni association, a member of the Board of Advisors, a moot court coach and a volunteer at its volunteer income tax assistance site. He is an adjunct professor at Central Penn College and Widener University Commonwealth Law School. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Board of Directors, the Federal Bar Association, Middle District chapter and the Dauphin County Bar Association.

Koltash is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and a *cum laude* graduate of Widener University Commonwealth Law School, from which he received the Outstanding Recent Alumni Award in 2010. He also studied at the National University of Ireland in Galway. He received the Eagle Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

Pennsylvania Department of Health

[jokoltash@pa.gov](mailto:jokoltash@pa.gov)

(717) 783-2500

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# Pennsylvania Bar Association

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### **Garnet L. Crossland** **Young Lawyers Division Secretary**

Garnet L. Crossland serves as solicitor for the Court of Common Pleas in Fayette County. Garnet is also the executive director for the Fayette County Bar Association and editor of the *Fayette Legal Journal*. She is active in the Pennsylvania Bar Association as a member of the House of Delegates and Young Lawyer Division Executive Council.

Garnet graduated as a scholar from the Schreyer Honors College at Penn State and attended law school at the West Virginia University College of Law.

Fayette County Courthouse  
[garnet@fcbbar.org](mailto:garnet@fcbbar.org)  
(724)322-0842

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### **Paul D. Edger** **Young Lawyers Division Treasurer**

Paul D. Edger is the managing attorney of the Carlisle office of MidPenn Legal Services. Paul focuses his practice in the areas of domestic violence and sexual violence prevention, child custody, landlord/tenant, unemployment compensation, public housing and public benefits. Paul has been recognized as a local legal leader by *Harrisburg Magazine* in 2016 and Top 40 Under 40 Family Lawyer by the American Society of Legal Advocates in 2017.

Paul currently serves as treasurer for the Young Lawyers Division. He is also a voting delegate in the PBA House of Delegates. He is also active in the Cumberland County Bar Association, serving as co-chair of the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee. He previously serving as chair of the Young Lawyers Division.

Paul graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Elizabethtown College and earned his Juris Doctor from the Widener University Commonwealth School of Law.

MidPenn Legal Services  
[pedger@midpenn.org](mailto:pedger@midpenn.org)  
(717) 243-9400 x2514

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### **Colin J. O'Boyle** **Division Delegate**

Colin J. O'Boyle is a shareholder at the Blue Bell office of Elliott Greenleaf PC. O'Boyle litigates in trial and appellate courts in both the state and federal systems, focusing primarily on commercial litigation, health law and employment discrimination. He has been consistently named among Pennsylvania "Rising Stars" by Super Lawyers® since 2010.

O'Boyle currently serves as the YLD delegate to the PBA House of Delegates. He is also an active member of the Montgomery Bar Association, including currently serving on the board of directors and previously serving as chair of the Young Lawyers Section.

O'Boyle graduated *cum laude* from the Villanova University School of Law and *magna cum laude* from the University of Scranton's Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program.

Elliott Greenleaf PC  
[cjo@elliottgreenleaf.com](mailto:cjo@elliottgreenleaf.com)  
(215) 977-1054

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**Kyle D. Perdue**  
**PBA Young Lawyer ABA Representative**

Kyle D. Perdue is an associate attorney at Edgar Snyder & Associates, a law firm committed to representing injury victims, in Pittsburgh.

Perdue is serving his first two-year term as Pennsylvania's district representative to the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division. He is also an active member of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Western Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

Perdue graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2014 and earned his B.S. in marketing from the University of Arizona in 2008.

Edgar Snyder & Associates  
[Kperdue@edgarsnyder.com](mailto:Kperdue@edgarsnyder.com)  
(412) 394-5390

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**Sharon Barney**  
**At-Large Chair to Committee and Section Liaisons**

Sharon Barney is counsel at the State College office of Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC. Barney practices immigration law and family law and has presented CLEs on business immigration matters and the intersection of immigration and family law. Prior to joining the firm, she was a solo practitioner and also worked as a legal services attorney for a domestic violence organization and a refugee resettlement agency.

Barney is the current co-chair of the Legal Services to the Public Committee and a member of the Bar Leadership Institute Class, 2017-2018. She is also an active member of the Centre County Bar Association, having previously served on the Board of Governors as the Young Lawyers Division Chair and as the Public Interest/Pro Bono Committee co-chair. She is also a member of the State College Sunrise Rotary and the Community Diversity Group in State College.

Barney graduated with her Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law and received her Bachelor of Arts in English with high honors from the University of Rochester.

Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC  
[sbarney@leechtishman.com](mailto:sbarney@leechtishman.com)  
(814)954-5904

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**Lauren Hartley**  
**At-Large Chair to Committee and Section Liaisons**

Lauren Hartley currently serves as a YLD governor-at-large. Her focus is developing the role of YLD liaisons to PBA committees and sections. She is also YLD liaison to the Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) and co-chair for the commission's Membership Committee.

Hartley is the recruitment coordinator at Penn State Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle. She also coordinates public interest and pro bono programming at the law school.

Prior to joining Dickinson Law, Hartley served as a law clerk to Judge Christylee Peck of the Cumberland County Court of Common Pleas. As a law student and recent graduate, she worked in immigration law. She graduated from Penn State Dickinson School of Law and Pepperdine University.

Penn State Dickinson School of Law  
[leh203@psu.edu](mailto:leh203@psu.edu)  
(717) 241-3528

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**M. Zane Johnson**  
**Zone 1 Co-chair**

M. Zane Johnson is the managing attorney of Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity (PLSE). His organization works towards just outcomes for low-income Philadelphians who have had contact with the criminal justice system by helping remove the barriers to opportunity created by criminal records. In addition to his work with PLSE, he also facilitates conflict resolution classes for youth at Good Shepard Mediation and is a board member for Art for Justice. Zane is a graduate of Temple University's Beasley School of Law.

Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity  
[Johnson@plsephilly.org](mailto:Johnson@plsephilly.org)  
(267) 519-5323

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**Benjamin Krone**  
**Zone 1 Co-chair**

Ben is admitted to the bar in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and is a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association and Young Professionals Council of The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia. He is a graduate of Widener University School of Law, now Delaware Law, and The Pennsylvania State University.

[BenKrone1@gmail.com](mailto:BenKrone1@gmail.com)  
215-237-1854

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**Keri A. Schantz**  
**Zone 3 Chair**

Keri A. Schantz practices employment, real estate and contract law in Allentown, Pennsylvania. She is a magna cum laude, with honors, graduate of Moravian College. She clerked in the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas following graduation from the Penn State University Dickinson School of Law.

Keri is an active member of the Northampton County Bar Association, PBA Women in the Profession and PBA Young Lawyers Division. She serves as a subcommittee chair for the Back to the Bar Initiative.

[kerischantz@gmail.com](mailto:kerischantz@gmail.com)

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# Pennsylvania Bar Association

## Young Lawyers Division Executive Council 2018-2019

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### **Jennifer Galloway** **Zone 3 Co-chair**

Jennifer Galloway is a partner at Kearney, Galloway and Graybill LLC, located in York, Pa. Jenn focuses her practice in the areas of estate planning, estate administration, orphans court litigation and elder law. Jenn is an active member of the York County Bar Association, chairing several of its committees, and is a past chair of the Young Lawyers Section of the YCBA. Jenn is a *cum laude* graduate of Elizabethtown College, where she received a B.A. in both political science and criminal justice. Jenn graduated summa cum laude from the Duquesne University School of Law, where she was the associate comment editor for the Duquesne Law Review and a contributing member of the Business Law Journal.

Kearney, Galloway and Graybill LLC  
[Jennifer@kglawnyork.com](mailto:Jennifer@kglawnyork.com)  
(717) 345-3494

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### **Jacquelyn R. Gagliardi** **Zone 3 Co-chair**

Jacquelyn R. Gagliardi is an attorney with the Dauphin County Public Defender's Office in Harrisburg. Prior to working as a public defender, she was an attorney with a small boutique firm in Harrisburg, where she focused primarily in the areas of employment and business law and clerked for Judge John D. Kuhn (ret.) in Adams County. She is also licensed to practice in Maryland. Gagliardi currently serves as the Young Lawyers Division Zone 3 co-chair and the High School Mock Trial Region 6 coordinator. She is also a member of the Dauphin County Bar Association. Gagliardi graduated from Widener University School of Law, now known as Widener Law Commonwealth, where she earned a Legislation Certificate, and from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Maryland, where she was a member of Alpha Phi Omega, an international co-ed service fraternity.

Dauphin County Public Defender's Office  
[jgagliardi@dauphinc.org](mailto:jgagliardi@dauphinc.org)  
(717) 780-6370

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### **Rachel M. Planas** **Zone 4 Chair**

Rachel M. Planas, formerly Rachel M. Wilson, joined McCormick Law Firm in November of 2013. Prior to joining the firm, Planas worked as an Employment and Labor Law attorney in Philadelphia and as a labor relations and human resources legal advisor for a public utility holding company in Southern New Jersey. Planas graduated with honors from Rowan University in 2006, with a Bachelor of Arts in Law and Justice and a minor in psychology. In May of 2012, Planas received her Juris Doctor from Temple University's James Beasley School of Law. While at Temple, Mrs. Planas was a teaching assistant for the Integrated Transactional Skills Program, an executive officer of the Business Law Society and an active member of the Tax Law Society. Mrs. Planas concentrates her practice on representing employers in workers' compensation, employment and labor law matters. She is admitted to the bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the bar of New Jersey and is a member of the Lycoming Law Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

McCormick Law Firm  
[rplanas@mcclaw.com](mailto:rplanas@mcclaw.com)  
(570) 326-5131

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**Diana Marie Collins**  
**Zone 5 Chair**

Diana Marie Collins is an attorney and professor. She currently teaches a variety of persuasive writing and pre-law courses at the University of Scranton and Luzerne County Community College. Diana also has over five years of experience in employment law. She served as a federal judicial law clerk for the Middle District of Pennsylvania for over two years and worked in the private sector representing both plaintiffs and defendants in employment law discrimination matters.

Collins is the co-vice chair of the PBA Law Related Education Committee and a graduate of the Bar Leadership Institute. She is the YLD liaison for the Civil and Equal Rights Committee. She previously served as a delegate in the House of Delegates for Zone 5. She is also active in her local bar association and is a past president of the Luzerne County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division.

Collins graduated from New York University and Pace Law School. She is an enthusiastic member of the Democratic Party and a former intern for Hillary Clinton when was a New York senator. In her spare time, Collins enjoys singing and freelance writing.

[dmc301@nyu.edu](mailto:dmc301@nyu.edu)  
(570) 357-1761

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**Zachary Kansler**  
**Zone 6 Chair**

Zach is a senior associate with the law firm Tremba Kinney, in Greensburg, Westmoreland County. He focuses his practice on municipal, real estate, corporate and domestic law. He serves as solicitor for multiple municipalities in Westmoreland County.

Zach recently served as the chair of the Westmoreland County Young Lawyers Committee, is the Zone 6 Young Lawyers Delegate for the PBA House of Delegates and was a member of the 2016-2017 Bar Leadership Institute Class. Zach is also a member of the Municipality of Murrysville's planning commission.

He graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 2009 and Albany Law School in 2012. While at Albany Law School, he was an editor for the *Government Law Review*.

Tremba Kinney  
[zkansler@westpalawyers.com](mailto:zkansler@westpalawyers.com)  
(724) 838-7600

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**Denise C. Pekelnicky**  
**Zone 7 Co-chair**

Denise C. Pekelnicky serves as in-house counsel for Erie Insurance Group. Prior to her current position, Denise owned and operated her own law practice in Northeast Pennsylvania. Denise teaches as an adjunct professor of law and economics at Penn State Erie – The Behrend College.

Pekelnicky currently serves as the Zone 7 co-chair for the Young Lawyers Division and is an active member of the Erie County Bar Association.

Pekelnicky graduated *magna cum laude* and Order of the Coif from Case Western Reserve School of Law and the highest distinction from Penn State Erie –The Behrend College (honors program).

The Erie Indemnity Company  
[denise.pekelnicky@erieinsurance.com](mailto:denise.pekelnicky@erieinsurance.com)  
(814) 870-5787

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**Sarah L. Quinn**  
**Zone 7 Co-chair**

Sarah Lynne (Webster) Quinn focuses her practice in the area of energy (coal, oil and natural gas) and transactions throughout the Appalachian Basin. She has experience preparing mineral title opinions and performing due diligence throughout Pennsylvania. Sarah also counsels higher education clients regarding workplace harassment, overtime regulations, transgender issues and Title IX.

Sarah is a member of the PBA 2016-2017 Bar Leadership Class. She is also actively involved in the Crawford County Bar Association, where she serves as chair of the Young Lawyers Division.

Sarah graduated with honors from Ohio Northern University, Claude W. Pettit College of Law and received her bachelor's degree from Westminster College.

Step toe & Johnson PLLC  
[sarah.quinn@step-toe-johnson.com](mailto:sarah.quinn@step-toe-johnson.com)  
(814) 333-4900

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**Schawne K. Kilgus**  
**Zone 8 Co-chair**

Schawne K. Kilgus is the project director and attorney for the Michael Ayers Law Project at the Huntingdon House in Huntingdon. Her practice is focused on representing survivors of domestic violence in custody, divorce, protection from abuse, support, and landlord/tenant cases. From 2014 to 2017, she worked at Kilgus Law Offices, LLC where her practice focused on family law, landlord/tenant law and probate/estate law.

She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2008 with a double major in philosophy and English and a minor in the classics. In May 2013, she received her J.D. from the William Mitchell College of Law (now Mitchell Hamlin School of Law). While attending, she sat on the executive board of the Women Law Student Association and was Magister of the Mitchell Inn of the international legal honor society Phi Delta Phi.

She is a member of the Huntingdon County Bar Association and currently serves as Zone 8 co-chair of the Young Lawyers Division. She previously was a member of the Lycoming County Bar Association and past chair of the Social Committee.

Michael Ayers Law Project  
[skilgus@huntingdonhouse.org](mailto:skilgus@huntingdonhouse.org)  
(814) 643-2801

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**Christopher Michelone**  
**Zone 8 Co-chair**

Chris Michelone is an attorney in McQuaide Blasko's Hollidaysburg office. Chris focuses his practice primarily on banking law, real estate, business transactions, estate planning and administration and intellectual property law.

Chris currently serves as Young Lawyers Division Zone Chair for Zone 8. He is also an active member of the Blair County Bar Association, serving on the Board of Governors and as president of its Young Lawyers Division. Chris serves on the boards of directors of various community organizations in Central Pennsylvania, including the Rotary Club of Altoona, Ronald McDonald House Charities-Mid Penn Region and the Blair County Chamber Foundation.

Chris graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2010 and from The George Washington University in 2007 with a B.A. in political science.

McQuaide Blasko  
[ctmichelone@mqblaw.com](mailto:ctmichelone@mqblaw.com)  
(814) 283-2000

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**Patrick Gallo**  
**Zone 9 Chair**

An experienced civil litigator, PJ concentrates his practice on complex commercial, construction, products liability, insurance coverage and business litigation. He often represents businesses and corporations in contractual and shareholder disputes and serves as outside counsel to a number of corporations and businesses. He has been consistently named a Pennsylvania "Rising Star" by Super Lawyers® since 2015 and has also been featured on the Top Lawyers list published by *Main Line Today* Magazine.

PJ is active with the Chester County Bar Association where he serves on the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and is chair of the YLD. He is also active in the community, serving on the PLAN Steering Committee for the Chester County Community Foundation and as a T-Ball coach with the Coventry Little League.

PJ received his J.D. from Widener University School of Law, where he was a merit scholar, member of the Trial Advocacy and Moot Court honor societies and Executive Board member for both the Student Bar Association and the *Widener Journal of Law, Economics and Race*. In addition, PJ graduated *magna cum laude* from West Chester University, where he played football for the Golden Rams.

MacElree Harvey, Ltd.  
[pgallo@macelree.com](mailto:pgallo@macelree.com)  
(610) 840-0246

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**Andrea Boyle**  
**Zone 10 Co-chair**

Andrea Boyle practices in the areas of civil litigation, business law, real estate law, probate/estate law and criminal law. From 2013 to 2016, she served as law clerk to Judge Marilyn J. Horan of the Butler County Court of Common Pleas. Attorney Boyle is a member of the Butler County Bar Association's Executive Committee, is a past president of the Butler County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division and is the Zone 10 co-chair for the PBA Young Lawyers Division. She also serves as one of Butler County's mental health hearing review officers, is the Butler County coordinator for the PBA Wills For Heroes program and actively serves on the Butler County Library Board. Andrea is a partner at the law firm of Boyle & Price in Butler.

The Law Firm of Andrea Lyn Boyle  
[aboyle@andreaboylelaw.com](mailto:aboyle@andreaboylelaw.com)  
(724) 841-0101

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**Melissa Merchant-Calvert**  
**Zone 10 Co-chair**

Melissa Merchant-Calvert is an associate attorney at Whalen Law Offices in Mercer. Melissa's primary areas of practice are criminal law and family law; however, Melissa also practices in civil litigation, wills, trusts and estates, and contracts.

Melissa is currently the Young Lawyer Representative to the Mercer County Bar Association, as well as serving on the Family Law, Nominating and Governance committees. She also serves as the Zone 10 co-chair to the PBA Young Lawyers Division.

Whalen Law Offices  
[whalenlaw2@att.net](mailto:whalenlaw2@att.net)  
(724) 662-1927

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**Daniel McKenrick**  
**Zone 11 Chair**

Daniel McKenrick is an attorney for Penn State Student Legal Services. He represents students in various criminal and civil matters arising out of Centre County. He additionally represents court-appointed individuals in criminal and juvenile matters. Before working at Penn State, McKenrick served as an assistant district attorney for several years. He also served as a law clerk to Judge Margherita Patti Worthington in Monroe County after graduating from law school.

McKenrick serves on the PBA House of Delegates and the Conference of County Bar Leaders Executive Committee. He also serves on Centre County Bar Association Board of Governors and is a past president of the Centre County Bar Association.

McKenrick graduated *cum laude* from Widener University School of Law. While there, he served on the *Widener Law Journal*, interned for a Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice and interned for the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office. McKenrick graduated from Penn State with high distinction (B.A., crime, law and justice; B.A., political science).

Penn State Student Legal Services  
[dcm230@psu.edu](mailto:dcm230@psu.edu)  
(814) 867-4388

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**Devon Malloy**  
**Zone 12 Chair**

Devon A. Malloy is an associate attorney at Robb, Leonard, Mulvihill LLP in Pittsburgh. Malloy's practice involves general civil litigation and complex insurance coverage and litigation.

Malloy is an active member of the Allegheny Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. Before moving to Pittsburgh, she previously served as president of the Cambria County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and has volunteered as a coordinator for the PBA Young Lawyers Division Mock Trial Competition for the past three years. Ms. Malloy currently serves on the Board of Directors for the American Red Cross Pennsylvania Mountains Chapter.

Ms. Malloy graduated from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with a Bachelor of Arts in political science and political communications. She received her Juris Doctor from Ohio Northern University Claude W. Pettit College of Law in 2013.

Robb Leonard Muvihill LLP  
[DMalloy@rlmlawfirm.com](mailto:DMalloy@rlmlawfirm.com)  
(412) 281-5431

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