



## Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Executive Council 2022-2023



### **Patrice M. Turenne**

#### *Young Lawyers Division Chair*

Patrice M. Turenne is labor and employment counsel for Bimbo Bakeries USA, Inc. in Horsham. She provides advice and support to Human Resources, Labor Relations and all levels of operations management on the full range of employment and labor law issues. She manages labor and employment claims, arbitrations and litigation. Previously, she was an associate attorney in private practice, where she focused her practice on labor and employment matters providing advice and advocacy on a broad range of matters involving both state and federal law.

Patrice is an active member of the Montgomery Bar Association, including serving as the vice-chair of the Young Lawyers Section. She is also a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Patrice is a graduate of Widener University School of Law School. She also holds a B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.A. from La Salle University.

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### **Jennifer Galloway**

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

Jennifer Galloway is senior counsel with Saxton & Stump, working in its Lancaster office. Jenn primarily practices estate planning, estate and trust administration and orphans court litigation. She is an active member of the York County Bar Association, chairing several of its committees, serving on the Board and is a past chair of the Young Lawyers Section of the YCBA and plans to get involved in the Lancaster County Bar Association. 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.

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### **Paul D. Edger**

*Young Lawyers Division Immediate Past Chair*

Paul D. Edger is a Senior Deputy Attorney General with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, assigned to the Bureau of Consumer Protection. Prior to joining the Attorney General in 2021, he was a regional managing attorney at MidPenn Legal Services, a nonprofit legal aid firm, for over seven years. He is also an adjunct professor at Widener University Commonwealth Law School, teaching in the areas of family law, property, employment law and trial skills. He was previously named a Rising Star by Pennsylvania Super Lawyers 2019-2021 in the field of “Legal Aid/Pro Bono,” a feat typically unheard of in the history of Pennsylvania Super Lawyer for that field. Paul also has been named to the “Forty Under 40” by the *Central Pennsylvania Business Journal* in 2019 and received the George E. Hoffer Service to Youth Award in 2018 from the Cumberland County Bar Association.

Paul just completed his term as 2021-2022 chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and remains a member of the PBA Board of Governors. Paul is an active member of the Cumberland County bar association. He is currently serving on the Cumberland County Board of Directors, co-chairs the Cumberland County Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee and previously served as the chair of the CCBA Young Lawyers Division.

Paul is the chairman of the Board of Directors of Safe Harbour, a local homeless shelter in Carlisle. He is also president of the Widener University Commonwealth Law School Alumni Board.

He graduated with a B.A. from Elizabethtown College and earned his J.D. from the Widener University School of Law. He lives in Carlisle with his wife, Katelynn, and two sons, Connor and Aiden.

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### **Melissa Merchant-Calvert**

*Young Lawyers Division Secretary*

Melissa Merchant-Calvert is a solo practitioner in Hermitage, Pa. Melissa's primary areas of practice are family law and criminal law. Other practice areas include civil litigation, estate planning and estates.

Prior to opening her own practice in January 2022, Melissa was an associate attorney at Whalen Law Offices in Mercer, Pa., for almost 10 years.

Melissa is currently serving a three-year term as PBA Zone-10 governor.

She is also active in the Mercer County Bar Association, where she currently holds the titles of secretary and young lawyer representative. Melissa also serves on the Family Law, Nominating and Governance committees.

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### **Chris Michelone**

#### *Young Lawyers Division Treasurer*

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.

He is 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.

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### **Ryan Sypniewski**

#### *Young Lawyers Division Delegate*

Ryan W. Sypniewski is an attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the administrative law judges in Pittsburgh. Ryan works under the district chief judge, preparing decisions and orders related to adjudicatory proceedings. His work primarily consists of litigation involving Black Lung Benefit claims, immigration employment issues and whistleblower complaints. Before joining the Department of Labor, Ryan served as a law clerk for Magistrate Judge William I. Arbuckle of the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Ryan is a 2019 graduate of Widener University Commonwealth Law School, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Widener Commonwealth Law Review and as an Academic Success Fellow for the first-year writing courses. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Pittsburgh, studying political science and history.

After graduating from law school, Ryan sought opportunities within the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He was a member of the 2020-2021 Bar Leadership Institute class. Ryan previously served as the At-Large Zone chair for the committee and section liaisons and the Zone 12 YLD delegate for the PBA House of Delegates. Ryan is an active member of the Young Lawyers Division, the Editorial Committee and the Labor and Employment Section. Ryan is also serving a three-year term on the PBA Planning Committee and a term as co-vice chair of the Membership Development Committee.

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### **Adrienne Peters Sipes**

*PBA Young Lawyer ABA Representative*

Adrienne Peters Sipes is the founder of Compass Estate Planning & Elder Law. She has been engaged in the private practice of law for 12 years, with most of her practice focusing on estate planning and elder law matters. She serves clients in establishing wills, powers of attorney, health care directives, trusts, caregiver agreements, asset protection and Medicaid planning/qualification. Additionally, she is accredited with the Veteran's Administration and represents veterans and their surviving spouses in applying for the Aid and Attendance benefit to assist with the costs of long-term care. She is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Pennsylvania Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Lawyers with Purpose and the Elder Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, serving as the Young Lawyers Division liaison. She was appointed by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf to the Pennsylvania Long Term Care Council. She frequently holds educational workshops for members of the community on the topics of estate and long-term care planning. She has also instructed continuing education courses for attorneys, financial professionals and health care providers.

Attorney Peters Sipes is currently serving as the PBA Zone 11 Governor and spent seven years serving in its House of Delegates. She is also the president of the Clearfield County Bar Association and has served as the secretary and public relations director during past terms. She volunteers her time serving on the Board of Directors for both the Clearfield Soccer Association and Children's Aid Society.

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### **Brandon Lee Wolff**

*Young Lawyers Division At-Large Chair to Committee and Section Liaisons*

Brandon Lee Wolff focuses his practice on employment and commercial litigation. Brandon practices in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Florida and the District of Columbia. He served as a law clerk with Judge Garry S. Rothstadt in the New Jersey Superior Court, Appellate Division. At Seton Hall Law, he was the editor-in-chief of the Seton Hall Health Law Outlook, an articles editor of the Seton Hall Legislative Journal and a member of the school's Appellate Advocacy Moot Court Board and Mock Trial Board. Before law school, Brandon was a National McCabe scholar at Swarthmore College, where he received the Deans' Award for Sustained Contributions to the Swarthmore Community. In high school, Brandon founded an anti-violence organization and was recognized as the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards top high school volunteer in Pennsylvania.

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### **TBD**

*Young Lawyers Division At-Large Chair to Law Schools*





### **Jada Greenhowe**

*Young Lawyers Division At-Large Chair to Diversity*

Jada S. Greenhowe joined the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) as assistant counsel in 2014. Jada provides legal advice on bankruptcy, credit reporting and third-party vendor management and oversight. She counsels PHFA's secondary mortgage program, the Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program, and represents the agency in civil litigation matters including actions to quiet title and Commonwealth Court appeals. She oversees federal and state regulatory compliance pertaining to the mortgage servicing industry, such as Act 91 (Homeowner's Emergency Assistance Act), Act 6 (the Loan Interest and Protection Law) and the Fair Credit Reporting Act for PHFA's Single Family mortgage program. In addition, she handles multi-party transactional real estate closings involving investor partnerships and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits in connection with PHFA's Multifamily program.

In 2013, Jada obtained her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. She earned a B.A. in communication rhetoric from the University of Pittsburgh in 2009.

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### **Karen E. Grethlein**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 1 Co-chair*

Karen is a claim director in the Multinational Group at Chubb Insurance. In this role, she assists insureds with losses, risk management and determining coverage on high exposure casualty claims. Prior to this position, Karen practiced insurance defense litigation at Marshall Dennehey.

Karen graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 2012 and Drexel Law School in 2015. Karen is a member of the PBA 2018-2019 Bar Leadership Institute class. She is an active member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession and sits on the WIP's Executive Council.

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### **Grant Bloomdahl**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 1 Co-chair*

Grant P. Bloomdahl is an associate attorney at Groen Strokoff O'Neill, a trial firm based in Philadelphia that specializes in catastrophic plaintiff's personal injury and civil litigation. His work is focused on personal injury, civil litigation and criminal defense. Prior to joining Groen Strokoff O'Neill, he spent two and a half years as a public defender in Chester County. Before becoming a public defender, he spent a year as an associate at the firm van der Veen, Hartshorn and Levin, where he handled criminal defense and personal injury cases. While in law school, he interned for Judge Susan Peikes Gantman of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). He loves taking cases to trial and is eager to allow juries to decide the outcome of cases.

He is an active member of the Chester County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (PACDL). He enjoys mentoring new lawyers about the legal world and getting successful results on behalf of his clients.

He graduated from Ursinus College in 2013 and Temple University Law School in 2018. He lives in Chester County.

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**Marissa R. Harper**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 2 Co-chair*

Marissa R. Harper is an associate at Zator Law, in Allentown. She concentrates her legal practice in the areas of business transactions, real estate transactions, land use, municipal law, and estate planning and estate administration. Marissa is also a judge advocate attorney in the United States Army Reserve. She served on active duty in the Army as an attorney for five years.

Marissa is a graduate of the Boston University School of Law and the Villanova University School of Business. She is an active member of the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce and a coach for Girls on the Run Lehigh Valley.

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**Alyssa Hicks**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 2 Co-chair*

Alyssa Hicks is an associate attorney at King, Spry, Herman, Freund and Faul, LLC in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She concentrates her practice in the areas of education and special education law. She received her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, and her J.D., *cum laude*, from Widener University Commonwealth Law School. While at Widener, Alyssa served as the president of the Moot Court Honor Society; the assistant editor-in-chief of the Widener Journal of Law, Economics, and Race; and the executive vice president of the Student Bar Association.

Alyssa is an active member of the Lehigh County Bar Association, serving as the co-chair of the Young Lawyers Division and co-chair of the Law Day Committee.

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**Cayla Amsley-Mummert**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 3 Co-chair*

Cayla E. Amsley-Mummert is an assistant public defender at the Franklin County Public Defender's Office. She provides criminal defense representation to people who are indigent through all stages of their criminal cases. For the first part of her legal career, Cayla worked at a private law firm, where her practice focused primarily on family law.

Cayla is an active member of the Franklin County Bar Association. She currently serves as a member of the FCBA Board of Directors and served as the FCBA Young Lawyers Division president. She is also a Franklin County representative in the PBA House of Delegates and was a member of the PBA Bar Leadership Institute class of 2020-2021. Cayla graduated with distinction with a B.S. from the Pennsylvania State University and earned her J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

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**Amy Jo Gregory**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 3 Co-chair*

Amy Jo Gregory is an attorney with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of General Counsel, Office of Administration in Harrisburg. She specializes in labor and employment law, dealing with issues ranging from unfair labor practices to employment discrimination claims.

In addition to the PBA, Amy is also an active member in the Bowman Inn of Court and a member of the Widener Commonwealth Law School Alumni Board.

Amy is a 2019 graduate of Widener Commonwealth Law School, where she served as president of the Student Bar Association and a member of the Moot Court Honor Society. She also received her B.A. in political science and law and society from Lebanon Valley College in 2014.

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**Taylor J. Beucler**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 4 Co-chair*

Taylor is a Lycoming County assistant district attorney. Taylor recently ended her Family Law practice, where she focused on domestic violence, children and youth services, and guardian ad litem matters. As always, she remains a resource in this area.

Sher is the Zone 4 delegate for the PBA House of Delegates. She is currently serving a three-year term as an Executive Council member.

Taylor graduated in 2013 from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, magna cum laude, with a B.A. in criminology, with minors in history and pre-law. She received her J.D. from the Charlotte School of Law (2015). She is an active member of both the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Lycoming Law Association (LLA).

The Beucler family welcomed a daughter, Autumn, in November 2020.

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**Jessica Lehman**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 4 Co-Chair*

Jessica Lehman is a partner at Hill, Turowski, James & Lehman LLP in Bloomsburg. She currently practices in the areas of family law, commercial and residential real estate, estate planning and administration, and business advising.

Previously, Jessica attended Lycoming College and Widener Commonwealth Law School, where she interned with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Mid-Penn Legal Services. Jessica was previously the Third Circuit Director for the Federal Bar Association and authored an article on the constitutionality of the death penalty for The Federal Lawyer magazine. Jessica currently serves as secretary of the Columbia/Montour Bar Association.

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**Katie Nealon**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 5 Chair*

Attorney Katie Nealon has been a lawyer at Munley Law since 2014. She focuses her practice on representing plaintiffs in personal injury litigation, including commercial truck crashes, automobile negligence and premises liability. Katie has distinguished herself among young lawyers and has been named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch 2021, Super Lawyers Rising Stars 2017-2021, and selected for inclusion in the Pennsylvania Bar Leadership Institute class of 2017-2018.

Katie is an active member of the Lackawanna County Bar Association and volunteers with Lackawanna Pro Bono. She also acts as a district coordinator for the Pennsylvania Bar Association Mock Trial Competition.

Katie graduated summa cum laude from Whittier Law School, where she was editor on Law Review, recognized as Outstanding Graduate in Business Law and won the Trial Advocacy competition: Best Cross Examination Award. Additionally, Katie has served as an advocate for both the Juvenile Hall Advocacy Clinic and the General Relief Advocacy Program, which provides assistance to individuals at the department of social services.

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**Megan Yocabet**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 6 Co-chair*

Megan is an associate attorney at Davis & Davis, in Uniontown. Megan is engaged in the general practice of law, with a primary focus on litigation.

Megan graduated from Duquesne University School of Law in 2020 and received her bachelor's degree from Washington & Jefferson College in 2017.

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**Zachary J. Kansler**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 6 Co-chair*

Zach is the full-time in-house solicitor for the City of Greensburg, Westmoreland County, and is part-time in-house solicitor for the Borough of Irwin and Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds. He focuses his practice on municipal, real estate and corporate law.

Zach is currently serving his second term in the PBA House of Delegates, previously served as the chair of the Westmoreland County Young Lawyers. He was named Westmoreland County Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year and was a member of the 2016-2017 Bar Leadership Institute class.

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.

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**Lydia H. Caparosa**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 7 Co-Chair*

Lydia Caparosa is an associate attorney at MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton LLP in Erie. Lydia focuses her practice in the areas of municipal law, general litigation and litigation involving commercial disputes, insurance defense, medical malpractice and trusts and estates.

She is an active member of the Erie County Bar Association and recently served as the chair of the Young Lawyers Division and as the Zone 7 Young Lawyer representative in the PBA House of Delegates.

Lydia graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and received her undergraduate degrees from the Pennsylvania State University.

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**Sarah L. Quinn**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 7 Co-Chair*

Sarah Lynne (Webster) Quinn focuses her practice in 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.

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### **Schawanne K. Kilgus**

#### *Young Lawyers Division Zone 8 Co-Chair*

Schawanne K. Kilgus is the staff attorney at the Blair County office of Mid Penn Legal Services. Her practice is focused on serving survivors of domestic violence in protection from abuse matters as well as serving indigent clients in landlord/tenant, mortgage foreclosure, consumer and unemployment compensation matters. From July 2017 to October 2019, she worked as the civil litigation resource attorney at Huntingdon House, where her practice focused solely on representing survivors of domestic violence in family law and landlord/tenant matters. From 2014 to July 2017, she worked in private practice.

Schawanne is a member of the PBA 2019-2020 Bar Leadership class. She is a member of the Blair County Bar Association and a former member of the Huntingdon County and Lycoming County bar associations.

Schawanne graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2008 with a major in philosophy and English and a minor in the classics. In May 2013, she received her J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law (now Mitchell Hamlin School of Law). In July 2019, Schawanne obtained a professional certificate in trauma-informed advocacy in Legal Systems from Mitchell Hamlin School of Law.

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### **Brandon Ryan**

#### *Young Lawyers Division Zone 8 Co-chair*

Brandon has been an attorney at Mid Penn Legal Services since August 2020, focused on the representation of victims of domestic violence, assistance in credit card cases and child custody matters. Brandon occasionally handles social security issues and unemployment compensation claims. Prior to Mid Penn, Brandon worked in a private firm, handling general practice matters ranging from real estate to civil cases. Brandon has been married for going on seven years, and has two children, Nolan and Linda. In his free time, he enjoys a glass of scotch, reading up on the paranormal and playing video games.

Brandon graduated from Duquesne University School of Law and passed the bar in 2015. He is a 2012 graduate of Mount Aloysius College, where he majored in history, political science and English.

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### **Annemarie E. Ward**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 9 Co-chair*

Annemarie E. Ward is an associate attorney at Keller, Lisgar & Williams LLP. Annemarie has been with the Delaware County firm since 2017, when she started as the firm's law clerk during her 2L year. Annemarie's primary area of practice is criminal defense, and she practices in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties.

Annemarie was born and raised in Philadelphia, where she attended Central High School. She graduated from Temple University in 2009, with her B.A. degree in criminal justice and distinction in her major. After years in the service industry, Annemarie matriculated to Delaware Law Widener University in the Fall of 2015 and graduated cum laude in 2018.

While in law school, Annemarie interned with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. She also participated in the Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project in Philadelphia (YSRP), where she had the privilege of helping one of the many juvenile lifers be re-sentenced following the *Miller* and *Montgomery* decisions. During her time with YSRP she was trained in mitigation and gained insight into the other side of the justice system. From then on it became her passion to fight for the rights of people who may not have the power or privilege to speak up for themselves.

Annemarie is an active member of the Delaware County Bar Association and treasurer of its Young Lawyers Section. Annemarie has served as the YLD Mock Trial coordinator for Delaware County for the past three years. She is also a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association and Phi Alpha Delta Law fraternity. She currently serves as Justice of the Executive Board of the Magaw Alumni Chapter for the greater Philadelphia area.

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### **Elaine T. Yandrisevits**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 9 Co-chair*

Elaine T. Yandrisevits is a partner with Antheil Maslow & MacMinn LLP, in Doylestown, where she focuses her practice on estate planning for high net-worth individuals and families, estate administration, Orphans' Court litigation, special needs trusts, guardianships, succession planning for closely held businesses and charitable gift planning. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey and before the United States Tax Court.

Elaine is an active member of the Bucks County Bar Association, where she serves on the executive boards of the Orphans' Court Section and Young Lawyers Division and is the chair of the 2022 Bench-Bar Conference Committee. She is also a member of the Bucks County Estate Planning Council and Lehigh Valley Estate Planning Council.

Elaine earned her undergraduate degree, cum laude, from the University of Delaware and her J.D. from Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law. Elaine also holds an LL.M. in Taxation and Estate Planning Certificate from the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law Graduate Tax Program.

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**Jamey C. Belin**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 10 Co-chair*

Jamey C. Belin is a senior associate at Charlton Law and chair of firm's family law group. In addition to family law, Jamey focuses his practice on guardian ad litem work, estate planning and general counsel for small businesses. Formerly, he served as an assistant district attorney for Armstrong County.

He is the president of the Butler County Young Lawyers Division and an active member of the Butler County Bar Association. Jamey serves as the Butler County representative on the board of directors for Neighborhood Legal Services Associations. He is also active in the Hay-Sell Chapter of the American Inn of Courts.

Jamey is the head attorney advisor for the Freeport Area High School Mock Trial team, where he helps the students craft their legal theories and foster a stronger understanding for law. Jamey graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law in 2016, where he was heavily involved with many volunteer programs and organizations. He earned a B.A. in classical studies from the University of Pittsburgh, where he graduated magna cum laude.

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**Mollie K. Patterson**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 10 Co-chair*

Mollie K. Patterson is a solo practitioner with an office in Ambridge, Beaver County. Mollie began her legal career as a law clerk for Judge Deborah A. Kunselman, now of the Superior Court and Judge James J. Ross of the Beaver County Court of Common Pleas. She then worked as a part-time public defender in Beaver County. She also works as an independent contractor for the Law Office of John F. Salopek, focusing on school law and bond issues.

Mollie's areas of practice include family, criminal and dependency law, with her primary focus working as the guardian ad litem for children in dependency cases. She also represents clients in PFAs, adoptions and guardianships. Mollie is a member of the Beaver County Family Engagement Initiative Implementation team.

Mollie is an active member of the PBA and the Beaver County Bar Association. She is a past president and secretary of the Young Lawyers Section of the BCBA. She is a member of the Women in the Law, Social/Sports, Juvenile Rules, Bench Bar and Library & Archives committees. She is the chair of the Pro Bono/Lawyer Referral Committee and vice chair of the CLE Committee. Mollie is also appointed to the BCBA Board of Governors, where she currently holds the position of assistant secretary. Mollie was a member of the PBA 2018-2019 Bar Leadership Institute class. She is also a member and secretary of the Hiram College Alumni Executive Board.

Mollie earned her J.D. in 2013 from the University of Baltimore School of Law. She earned a B.A. in history from Hiram College in 2010.

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**Heather L. Bozovich**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 11 Co-chair*

Heather L. Bozovich is a solo practitioner in Clearfield. Heather's primary area of practice is municipal law. Heather currently serves as solicitor to Clearfield County and several other municipalities and municipal authorities in Clearfield County. Prior to opening her own firm, Heather worked for a small law practice focusing on family law. She is active in the Clearfield County Bar Association, as well as several local nonprofit organizations. Heather graduated from the University of Toledo School of Law and received her Bachelor of Science in finance from Virginia Tech.

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**John K. Lugg**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 11 Co-chair*

John is a partner at Lugg & Lugg Law Office, in Lock Haven. He currently practices in the areas of estate planning and administration, orphans' court matters, real estate and business transactions. He also serves as solicitor for the Clinton County Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds and Auditors offices.

He has served as a Pennsylvania Bar Association Zone 11 delegate since 2017. He has also served as Clinton County Bar Association secretary and treasurer at various times. He serves on a variety of nonprofit boards in Clinton County.

John graduated from Juniata College in 2013 and from Penn State Law in 2016.

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**Thomas F. Cocchi Jr.**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 12 Co-chair*

Tom is an attorney with Husch Blackwell LLP in their Link Virtual Office. Based out of his home in Allegheny County, Tom works with the product liability and mass tort practice group, which has members all across the country. Tom is licensed in Pennsylvania and West Virginia and is admitted in multiple federal courts. He is an active member of both the Pennsylvania and Allegheny County bar associations and helps to arrange CLE programming with an emphasis towards educating the public on legal issues.

Tom graduated from Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, PA with a bachelor of science in finance and politics in 2013. He obtained his J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law, *Magna Cum Laude*, in 2016.

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**Michelle A. Ross**

*Young Lawyers Division Zone 12 Co-chair*

Michelle A. Ross is counsel with Leech Tishman, where she is a member of the estates and trusts, litigation, and tax practice groups. Her practice focuses on estates and trusts planning and administration, elder law and guardianships and other Orphans' Court fiduciary litigation. Michelle is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania and the U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. She will be sitting for the Florida Bar in February 2023.

Michelle has tried cases in the Orphans' Court Division of various counties in Pennsylvania regarding power of attorney disputes, will contests, surcharge actions and demands for accountings. She is an experienced elder law attorney, assisting clients with obtaining, modifying and terminating guardianships and obtaining Medicaid benefits. Michelle currently serves as outside general counsel for a nonprofit corporate fiduciary that serves in all fiduciary capacities and manages a pooled trust. Michelle assists families with their estate planning needs and corresponding tax implications. She often navigates the probate and trust administration channels for her clients.

Michelle has previous experience as an assistant public defender in Beaver County and has worked at various firms in the Pittsburgh area practicing Orphans' Court fiduciary litigation, estates and trusts, criminal defense, personal injury defense, workers' compensation defense, municipal and school law, and dependency and family law. She also ran a successful campaign for a sitting judge in the Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County.

Michelle received her J.D. from The Duquesne University School of Law in 2013. While attending law school, Michelle served as a clerk for Judge Michael F. Marmo and Judge Kevin G. Sasinoski, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. She was also a member of the Trial Advocacy Team, competing in both the American College of Trial Lawyers National Trial Competition in Philadelphia and the William W. Daniel National Invitational Trial Competition in Atlanta, which earned her induction into the Louis L. Manderino Honor Society. She also received the pro bono certificate for her volunteer work with Christian Legal Aid. Michelle graduated magna cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh in 2010 with a B.S. in psychology and a double minor in legal studies and Italian.

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