



FCBA Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Lauren J. Mashe, Esq.

Thank you all for your membership to the Fairfield County Bar Association (FCBA). I would also like to thank those of you who work so hard to maintain its success. The FCBA is led by our Executive Director, Jeanne Urso, who celebrated her 20th anniversary with us last year. Our Assistant Executive Director, Lina Quintero, has been in her role for over 16 years. In addition, the FCBA is run by our volunteer Board of Directors. Members who volunteer to chair our committees are also an integral part of our organization.

The FCBA is implementing changes to better serve you and increase participation among the membership. For example, over the past few years we have formed committees and we encourage every committee to meet at least once or twice throughout the year so attorneys with similar interests and practice areas can share ideas and plan seminars and programs that their committee may find helpful. These meetings can also provide an opportunity for attorneys to meet others in their practice area.

This year we have formed six (6) Advisory Groups comprised of Jeanne and our board members. Our Membership Advisory Group will focus on increasing membership and reviewing the current dues structure. Our Sponsorship Advisory Group will identify businesses including court reporters, accountants, bookkeepers, and other professionals to sponsor educational and social networking events for the FCBA. Our Programming Advisory Group will coordinate with all of the committee chairs to organize seminars and identify potential topics and speakers. Our Nominating Advisory Group will identify members to serve on our board of directors. Our Law Day and Events Advisory Group will work on our annual Law Day events by selecting a speaker for the Law Day luncheon, assisting with the annual Law Day Art and Essay contest for local students, and planning other non-Law Day related events as needed. Our Awards Advisory Group will assist the Ethics Committee co-chairs with selecting an attorney and a judge to be honored at our Annual Meeting. They will also assist the Law Day and Events Advisory Group with selecting the Liberty Bell Award winner and will consider whether the FCBA should form new ways to honor and recognize our members.

Your continued participation and attendance at seminars and events are critical to our success. I welcome your feedback on how the FCBA could better serve our members. If you have any ideas for any of the advisory groups, or on how we can improve the organization, please let me know.



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FCBA OFFICERS 2018-19

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Asst. Executive Director—Lina Quintero

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

By Wendy E. Prince, Esq.



News abounds at the Fairfield County Bar Association (FCBA). Committees are flourishing after a restructuring to limit the number of committee co-chairs along with active and engaged members and regular scheduled meetings. Please call the office for a schedule of those committee meetings which may serve your practice area, your pro-bono interests, and networking opportunities. Considering New York's new Diversity CLE requirement, our executive director, Jeanne Urso, suggested that we form our own Diversity Committee. The committee was approved by the board and is co-chaired by Anne Tremanis and Donna Lattarulo. In 2018, the Diversity Committee offered a program on Unconscious Bias and Unearned Privilege.

For our educational programs, please consider becoming a speaker or suggesting a program to support the FCBA's educational goals. You can also earn those annoying CLEs in the process! For our social events; our most attended event in 2018 was the Annual Meeting on June 7, 2018. If we missed you, please attend this year's Annual Meeting on June 6th, as well as some of the other important events for 2019, such as the Probate Judge's Lunch, Law Day Lunch and Annual Judge's Reception. All are promised to be educational and an opportunity to see new and old colleagues.

In the news at the Fairfield County Bar Foundation (FCBF), besides our now famous golf outing, is our assistance with Stamford Public School's spring high school internship program. These internships will provide a unique opportunity for seniors to experience working in the legal profession. During this three-week program, student interns will be expected to excel at their responsibilities, show proper office etiquette, and leave their egos at home. They are there to soak up the total experience, whether it be greeting the door man, exchanging pleasantries with "colleagues" and clients, completing a simple task or handling a more complicated project with enthusiasm. The students are well trained before they arrive at your office by Michelle Lappas, Program Coordinator at the Stamford Mayor's Youth Services Bureau. Many of us served as interns at some point in our lives. I still remember my days as a New York City high school student when I had several internships that involved botany at the Queens Botanical Gardens, fashion at the historical Abraham & Straus Department Store, and politics at Senator Chuck Schumer's office (then a New York Congressman). These students, like me in those days, do not have the social connections to learn about non-profits companies, for-profit businesses and local politics. If your firm is interested, it's not too late to offer to host an intern!

Happy 2019!

"Show me a successful individual and I'll show you someone who had real positive influences in his or her life. I don't care what you do for a living—if you do it well, I'm sure there was someone cheering you on or showing the way. A mentor." – Denzel Washington

THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION: CELEBRATING OVER A DECADE OF CHARITABLE GIVING!

By Deborah Cannavino, Esq.

The Fairfield County Bar Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in 2006 and received its 501(c)(3) charitable organization status in 2008. The Foundation was founded by current Foundation Board members, Judge Heller, Judge Sommer, Dan Fox, Amina Ahmad, Megan Baroni, Larry Reilly, Deborah Cannavino and other former Board members. The Foundation's mission is to help organizations dedicated to improving access to justice for those in the community who have been impacted by poverty, abuse, and discrimination by providing grants, educational programs and legal services. Since inception, through its fundraising efforts, the Foundation has provided grants totaling approximately \$123,000 to the following 25 non-profits:

- Child Guidance Center of Southern CT
- Stamford Counseling Center
- Kids in Crisis
- Family ReEntry
- Brain Injury Association of Connecticut
- The Volunteer Center of Southwestern Fairfield County
- ProBono Partnership
- Carver Foundation of Norwalk, Inc.
- Women's Business Development Center
- A Better Chance, Inc. of New Canaan
- Project Playground
- Jackie Robinson Park of Fame
- Domus
- Child Guidance Center
- Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care of Southwestern CT
- Richard Rosenthal Hospice
- YMCA of Greenwich
- Connecticut Appleseed Foundation for Law & Justice
- Lawyers for Children America
- St. Luke's LifeWorks
- Stamford Counseling Center
- Tiny Miracles
- Future 5
- Connecticut Learning Centers

The recipient of funds raised by the FCBF's 2018 Annual Golf Outing was the Children's Learning Centers of Fairfield County, a nonprofit agency providing high-quality and affordable early childhood education and care programs to approximately 1,500 children each year.



Pictured left to right: Terrence McAllister, FCBF Golf Committee; Jeanne Urso, Executive Director, FCBF; Marc Jaffe, CEO, Children's Learning Centers; Lauren Mashe, Vice President FCBF; Lina Quintero, FCBF Golf Committee and Sonya Kelepecz, Director of Development, Children's Learning Centers. **Not pictured:** Chris DeMattie, FCBF Golf Committee.

THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION (“FCBF”)

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The Foundation has also sponsored a number of seminars for local lawyers, including charitable foundations, training lawyers to assist in pro bono foreclosures, veteran’s rights, eldercare legal and practical issues. It has also provided information and services to the Bar Association members through programs such as the Global Entry event. In 2018, the FCBF also co-sponsored an event honoring former Chief Justice Rogers and current Chief Justice Richard Robinson, both of whom practiced in Fairfield County. Currently, the Foundation is working with the City of Stamford to establish a directory of law firms to participate in their High School Senior internship program. The Foundation hopes to extend the senior internship to other neighboring towns in 2019.

In 2019, the Foundation is looking forward to its Annual Golf Outing in June, as well as a wine and bourbon tasting, J. McLaughlin shopping and bubbly event, and a night of beer and pizza at a local brewery. If you are interested in participating in upcoming Foundation events or serving as a Foundation Board member, please contact Jeanne Urso at fcba@optimum.net.

The FCBA’s 28th Annual Judge’s Reception held in October 2018 was attended by over 160 people who came to say farewell to former Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers and to welcome the new Chief Justice, Richard A. Robinson.



Front row left to right: Former Chief Justice Chase T. Rogers, Hon. Mary E. Sommer, and Hon. Donna Nelson Heller. **Back row left to right:** Hon. Dianne E. Yamin; Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson; Hon. Edward R. Karazin, Jr.; Hon. Ronald E. Kowalski, II; Hon. Charles T. Lee; Justice Andrew J. McDonald; Hon. Kevin Tierney, and Hon. Jack L. Grogins.

Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, Inc. held its 40th Annual Christmas Extravaganza at the Yerwood Center in Stamford on December 16, 2018. Approximately 400 children under the age of 13 attended the event!



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COMMITTEES

For more information on the types of programs our Committees offer, or if you have a program idea or are interested in speaking at an FCBA sponsored program, please contact Jeanne Urso.

ADR
Appellate
Bankruptcy
Bench/Bar
Business Law
Civil Litigation
Criminal Law
Diversity
Elder Law
Employment Law
Entertainment, Media &
Intellectual Property Law
Environmental Law
Ethics & Professionalism
Family Law
Health Law
Land Use
Law Practice Management/
Solos & Small Firms
Municipal Government
Newsletter
PR/Marketing
Probate & Estates
ProBono
Real Estate Law
Tax
Worker's Compensation
Women in the Law
Young Lawyers

COMMITTEE PROGRAMS AND NEWS

The **WOMEN IN THE LAW COMMITTEE** held an informative and well-attended luncheon program on January 29, 2019, at the FCBA offices. The program, “A Primer on Tackling Challenging Probate Issues and Achieving Work-Life Balance” was presented by Judge Dianne E. Yamin, Probate Judge for the District of Danbury. Judge Yamin provided practical tips for all practitioners and discussed relevant probate issues, including handling creditor claims and real estate issues in estate administration.

The **MEDIA, ENTERTAINMENT & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE** and the **CIVIL LITIGATION COMMITTEE** co-presented a well-attended CLE seminar on September 26, 2018 on the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act called “CUTPA: Hot Topics and Unresolved Issues.” The speakers were Robert Langer of Wiggin & Dana and Daniel Scholfield of Lynch, Traub, Keefe & Errante. The former is the principal author, and the latter a contributing author, of the Connecticut Practice Series Volume 12 on unfair trade practices. Daniel Cooper, of Cooper & Kurz, was the moderator for the proceedings.

The **BANKRUPTCY COMMITTEE** presented a CLE seminar on September 27, 2018 at the FCBA Offices. Ellery Plotkin and Wendy Marie Weathers had a full room of attorneys over a luncheon to discuss the basics of Chapter 7 and 13 cases, exceptions, discharge of debt, preferences and fraudulent conveyances. Other topics discussed were creditors’ rights and current themes in bankruptcy.

The **BANKRUPTCY COMMITTEE** also wished to alert FCBA members that the revised U.S. Bankruptcy Court Local Rules went into effect on September 1, 2018 and amendments to Federal Rules of Bankruptcy and Forms became effective December 1, 2018. Both can be found at www.ctb.uscourts.gov.

The **ESTATES AND PROBATE COMMITTEE** held two programs last Fall. The first was “Managing Family Dynamics in Estate Planning and Trust Administration.” The program was presented by Jane Beddal of Dovetail Resolutions and Julie Min Chayet of U.S. Trust. They led an insightful presentation on how family dynamics impacts estate planning strategies, business succession, trust administration and distributions, and planning generally. They provided the audience with practical strategies for addressing various difficult family situations. A second well-attended program on the organization and administration of Private Foundations was led by Stefania Bartlett and Cara Howe Santoro of Cummings & Lockwood. Jay Sandak of Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey, LLP, and Ernie Teitell of Silver Golub & Teitell, LLP, discussed their personal experiences with running foundations. Jennifer Pagnillo of Day Pitney LLP discussed the benefits of Fairfield County Community Foundation and Page Snow of Foundation Source discussed the resources available to assist foundations with administration and reporting.

This Spring, the **ESTATES AND PROBATE COMMITTEE** is planning programs on “Planning with Life Insurance” in the current tax environment, gift tax return preparation, probate litigation as well as the annual Probate Judge’s Luncheon.

E-GADS... ARE E-CLOSINGS REALLY HERE?

By Joshua A. Luksberg, Esq.,

It's finally here, closing day, and you are purchasing your first home. A home you spent weeks searching for on the internet until you finally found that perfect place. You saved up enough for the down-payment, but you still needed a mortgage. And you didn't get just any mortgage, you got an E-Mortgage! You were able to apply, receive approval, and lock-in all right from your phone, and all within minutes! Now you need to "attend" the closing, but the closing is scheduled for 11:00 and it is 10:55 and you haven't showered or left your house. Lucky for you that is not a problem. You are about to do an E-Closing. All docs are to be e-signed, and even the notarization will be taking place remotely. You don't even need to leave your couch!

E-Closings, said succinctly, is the automation of the real estate closing process. The ultimate vision is for lenders and their settlement agents to create a portal or intranet site which is secure, and allows all parties working on the transaction to visit remotely. The seller can "sign" the deed by clicking their assent or using digital signatures. Likewise the borrower can execute their mortgage in the same fashion. Even the acknowledgment can be done remotely. The buzzword in this phase of the transaction is remote online notarization or RON, because everything needs an acronym these days.

The notarization or acknowledgment of a deed or mortgage in Connecticut is completed by an attorney acting as a Commissioner of the Superior Court. At times the task can seem menial, but the purpose is very important. The attorney needs to confirm that the purported signer of the document is in fact who they claim to be, and that it is the signer's free act and deed. In other words, that they are not being coerced to sign, or lack the capacity to do so. When this task is done remotely, even if still by attorneys, the major concern is how that attorney confirms things like coercion and capacity when they are not physically with the person signing the document. Certain software companies are jockeying for position to be the leader

in what could become an extremely lucrative industry, but no clear cut winner has emerged yet. Fraud and forgery concerns appear to be one of, if not the biggest threat to the viability of an E-Closing.

Connecticut faces further challenges with E-Closings in that a full E-Closing also requires all documents and funds to be transferred electronically. This means that instead of driving to one of our 169 different town clerk offices to record your deed and mortgage, you would just email the e-signed documents and send payments for transfer taxes and recording fees via an ACH wire. Until all or most of the 169 towns are running on the same software platform, the process will likely remain inefficient and confusing, thereby inhibiting adopters.

All in all I do believe the E-Closing process is on the rise and will be coming to a closing near you. Whether it is entirely conducted electronically, or just bits and pieces, the E-Closing is the future of all real estate transactions.

Joshua Luksberg is Vice President, Connecticut State Manager of First American Title Insurance Company and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association, Inc.



BEST PRACTICES IN COURT REPORTING

By Donna M. Hoffman, Esq.

Court reporters are an essential part of the litigation process and must be highly skilled, efficient and accurate. They can transcribe the spoken word at 225 words per minute with extraordinary accuracy, using a language that is foreign to most of us. Training takes two to four years and covers the use of computer-aided transcription, stenography machines, legal terminology and courtroom and deposition procedures. In Connecticut, the State Board of Shorthand Reporters licenses court reporters after passing two exams: a written knowledge exam consisting of 100 multiple choice questions and a skills test of two-voice testimony which must be passed with 225 words per minute and an accuracy of 95 percent.

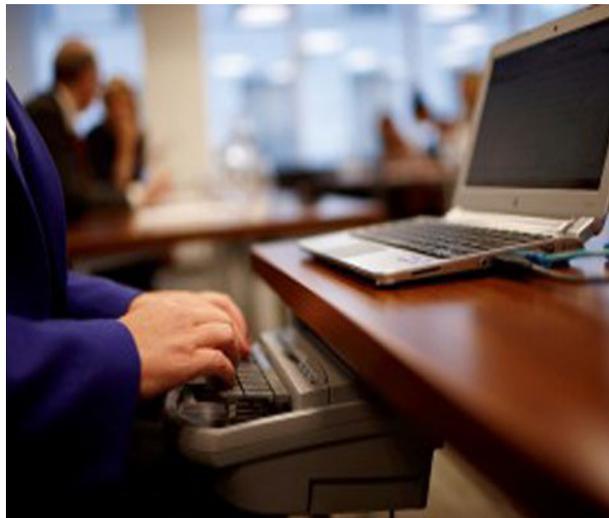
So how can you make the best use of your highly skilled court reporter? Here are a few helpful tips:

- Provide a caption or Complaint to the court reporting agency prior to the deposition. This will allow the court reporter to upload information and learn about the nature of the matter beforehand which will save time the day of the deposition.
- Provide a word list or a list of terms and names that are difficult to spell prior to the deposition. This will ensure accurate spelling and avoid interruptions during the deposition.
- Speak loud and clear. Instruct the deponent to do the same and to avoid non-verbal responses.
- Do not speak over each other. It is difficult for the court reporter to get an accurate transcript if more than one person is speaking at a time.
- Always identify yourself during telephonic depositions so that you are properly identified in the transcript.

- Hire an interpreter. Court reporters have to understand different accents; however, it is best to hire an interpreter when a deponent's first language is not English.
- Allow breaks. Court reporters are human too and need bio-breaks.
- Avoid asking the court reporter's opinion of the witness or their testimony. Remember that court reporters are Officers of the Court and must remain impartial at all times.
- Work together with the court reporter. You share the same goal: an accurate, readable transcript.

Planning in advance can go a long way to ensuring that your deposition goes smoothly and that your court reporter delivers an accurate and timely transcript.

Donna M. Hoffman, Esq. is a Regional Account Manager for Huseby, Inc., a full-service court reporting and global litigation agency. She can be reached at dannahoffman@huseby.com or (860) 422-4490. The company's website is www.huseby.com.



DIVORCE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW: A PRIMER FOR FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS AND DIVORCED PARENTS OF A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY

By Jeffrey L. Forte, Esq.

Although the U.S. divorce rate is falling, divorce rates run much higher for couples that have a child with special needs. Family law practitioners and their clients need to be aware of what parents rights are under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) when drafting a divorce decree to ensure a child's special education interests are appropriately addressed.

Which Parent Has the Right to Make Educational Decisions for their Child with Special Needs?

Generally speaking, unless otherwise provided by court order or state law, both parents have rights under the IDEA to address parental concerns and advocate for the needs of their disabled child's special education and related services. "When the parents of a child with a disability are divorced, both parents are entitled to exercise their IDEA rights, unless a court order or state law provides otherwise."

Issues inevitably arise when there is a disagreement between divorced parents relating to their child's special educational needs and related services. This often leads to further confusion and difficulty regarding how the school district should proceed, thereby causing a three-way dispute between parent, parent and school district. Divorced parents should also be mindful of districts efforts to "divide and conquer" the parents. For this reason, as a matter of best practice, it is critical family law attorneys and divorced parents craft a final divorce decree clearly specifying which parent has "educational decision-making authority" over their child's special education.

Which Parent Has Educational Decision-Making Authority When Not Specifically Addressed in the Divorce Decree?

It cannot be underscored enough that the divorce decree contains an educational decision-making authority clause when a divorced couple has a child with special needs. The family law practitioner or concerned divorced parent of a child with special needs should seek to modify or amend an existing divorce decree so that such a clause is contained.

In the absence of such a clause, family law courts and/or administrative impartial due process hearing officers examine which parent has legal custody, physical custody and/or medical decision-making authority over the disabled child. Under state laws, a divorced parent that neither possesses legal nor physical custody of the child may lack standing to participate in the child's special educational process under the IDEA.

Preventing Your Child's Special Education Needs from Being Interrupted During and After Your Divorce.

In the practice of special education law, there are many scenarios involving divorced parents challenging the special education services of their child. Here are a few examples:

- Glen is a child that is outplaced at a specialized school. Mom and Dad are divorcing. Dad cannot accept that Benjamin requires a specialized school. Dad wants Benjamin back in district. Mom wants Benjamin to stay in his current outplacement. The school district would be happy to agree with Dad because it is cheaper. Dad signs the IEP first, allowing the school district to take Benjamin back into district.
- Rob is a student that successfully is secured a private outplacement at mediation paid for by the district based on violations of FAPE. In exchange for Rob's private outplacement, the district requires both Mom and Dad sign a confidential settlement agreement. Mom and Dad are divorced. Mom refuses to sign the agreement, thereby delaying and possibly preventing Rob's private outplacement.
- Tim is a student with disabilities that is not receiving a special education. Mom and Dad are divorced. Mom and Dad share joint legal and physical custody of Tim, but Mom handles medical decisions. Mom wants the school district to initially evaluate Tim for special education services, but Dad says no and refuses to provide consent to the district.

In each of these examples all of the issues can be avoided if the divorce decree contained an educational decision-making authority clause.

Thousands of dollars, family court appearances, court-appointed guardians and the emotional toll both on you and your child can arguably all be avoided if you and your family law attorney proactively protect your parental educational decision-making rights over your child's special education.

Had I Only Known: Special Education Questions to Ask While Crafting Your Divorce Decree.

Admittedly, I am not a family law attorney. I have never handled a divorce. However, as special education lawyer and a certified child advocate, I have represented dozens of divorced parents relating to the educational rights their child with special needs, often times in concert with my client's family law attorney. Here are some questions you and your family law attorney should consider when going through your divorce:

- What parent will have educational-decision making authority over your child's special education? Specify it in the divorce decree.
- What parent will attend and advocate at IEP or Section 504 meetings on behalf of your child? Note that under the IDEA, both parents have the right to bring anyone they wish to an IEP or Section 504 meeting and school districts do not have any authority to prevent it. You do not want to face the possibility of having your ex-spouse show up at an IEP meeting with his or her new boyfriend or girlfriend or controversial attorney or advocate that knows absolutely nothing of the needs of your child yet have an equal seat at the table.
- In so much as there is physical abuse or domestic violence between ex-spouses, a protective or restraining order can strategically allow a school district to prevent the abusive spouse's personal attendance to an IEP meeting and instead participate by phone.
- If your child's school district is not fulfilling the IEP or Section 504 obligations and you need to hire an advocate or special education lawyer, which parent will pay for such representation? Which parent gets to decide if such representation is allowed and by whom?
- If your child requires private evaluations, which parent will fund these costs? Which parent selects the evaluator?

- If you decide to unilaterally place your child in a private special education school because the school district is not providing FAPE, which parent will fund the private unilateral placement?
- Which parent has the right to obtain all of your child's educational records under the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act (FERPA) with the school district?
- Will you and your divorced spouse live in different towns? If so, this can affect costs pertaining to your child's private outplacement. Residency requirements are included in private settlement agreements with districts.

Do You and Your Family Law Attorney Need to Speak with a Special Education Law Attorney?

As with any legal fact pattern, it depends on your situation. Divorced and divorcing parents, as well as family law practitioners who have concerns about the child's special education should always connect with an experienced special education attorney to ensure the child's educational rights are ambitiously appropriate and that the child's IEP, school placement and related services are being delivered with fidelity.

As a matter of best practice, I require any potential client that is divorced to provide me with a copy of their divorce decree prior to entering into an attorney client relationship in order to determine what parent has standing to pursue the special educational interests of their child. Regardless of the disputes among former spouses, divorced parents are encouraged to set their differences aside for the benefit of their child's special education during and after the divorce and continue to be empowered as their child's best advocate.

Jeffrey L. Forte practices special education law, child advocacy and juvenile defense. He is the founding member of Forte Law Group LLC where he exclusively represents families and children with special needs. Forte Law Group LLC has offices in Westport, Shelton and West Hartford, Connecticut.

This law article contains endnotes with enumerated case law citations and annotations. Please visit www.fortelawgroup.com/blog and click on the full PDF version for a complete listing of legal endnotes.

CONNECTICUT CHILD JUSTICE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS CHILDREN IN NEED

By Ernie Teitell, Esq.

At present, there are an extraordinary number of children who are under the custody and care of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) and/or in Foster Care who are in need of special educational services. Unfortunately, the DCF is not sufficiently funded to have professionals on staff who have the requisite knowledge to advocate for each of these children's needs. The result is that these children are deprived of the additional educational services essential to their ability to understand information presented to them in the classroom. Without the special services needed to address issues such as physical handicaps, intellectual disabilities, comprehension deficiencies, speech and language impairments as well as emotional and behavioral issues, these children are more likely to suffer academically and/or ultimately drop out of school.

The Connecticut Child Justice Foundation (CCJF), a non-profit organization, was founded several years ago to ensure that Connecticut school districts provide all of the essential and legally mandated educational services (including Special Education) to each child who is under the custody and/or care of the DCF. To make that possible, to date, more than 50 attorneys, working through the CCJF, have volunteered to represent the more than 150 children who have been referred to the Foundation for assistance. These referrals have come from DCF workers and Surrogate Parents, who are required by law to ensure that these children receive the special education they need. These CCJF legal professionals actively advocate at the School District level, at the State Administrative level and in the Courts, if necessary, in order to protect each child's full educational rights.

As one of the co-founders of the CCJF, I personally appreciate all of the lawyers who have volunteered to represent these children and who have worked so hard on their behalf. I encourage other legal professionals to volunteer their time for this important pro bono service. Without somebody to advocate for these children, the educational needs of these children will likely not be met.

The CCJF volunteer lawyers who have handled these cases remark that they find that representing these children is so meaningful and rewarding. Likewise, these children feel empowered by their improved educational experiences. This empowerment in turn boosts their confidence in their abilities and provides a springboard for future success. It's our moral obligation as lawyers to use our skills and abilities to help these children who do not have anyone else to advocate for them. Won't you please join us? Kindly contact Jeanne Urso at fcba@optimum.net.

Ernie Teitell is a partner at Silver Golub & Teitell LLP with over 35 years of experience in criminal and civil litigation. He has earned many accolades over the years, including Best Lawyers' Lawyer of the Year for medical malpractice (plaintiffs) in 2019, 2017, 2015 and 2012 and personal injury litigation (plaintiffs) in 2018 and 2014.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Family Law Committee:
Hearsay Issues Involving
Children in Family Cases*
February 20, 12:30-2:00
FCBA Office
1.5 NY & CT CLE Area of
Practice Credits

*Business/Corporate Law
Committee: What Every
Corporate Lawyer Needs
to Know for Foreign In-
vestment in a US Busi-
ness—The FIRRMA
Amendments to CFIUS*
February 26, 12:30-2:00
FCBA Office
1.5 NY & CT CLE Area of
Practice Credits

*Tax Law Committee: 2018
Connecticut Tax Updates*
March 5, 12:30-2:00
FCBA Office
1.5 NY & CT CLE Area of
Practice Credits

*FCBA Luncheon Program:
Understanding Your Per-
sonal Communication
Tools & Attorney Ethics in
the Networking World*
March 13, 12:00-2:00
FCBA Office
1 CT Ethics & Professional-
ism Credit and 1 Skills
Credit

*Real Estate Committee:
The Kitchen Sink Title
Style—Volume II*
March 14, 12:00-2:00
FCBA Office
2.0 NY & CT CLE Area of
Practice Credits

*Annual Probate Judges'
Lunch*
April (date TBD)

Annual Law Day Lunch
May (date TBD)

FCBA Annual Meeting
June 6, 2019
Stamford Yacht Club

FCBF Annual Golf Outing
June 27, 2019
Sterling Farms Golf Course