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# ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

*Serving the Pittsburgh Legal Community*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

## New ACBA President asks ACBA members to place health and wellness at the center of their professional lives

By Amy J. Coco

Editor now-ACBA President Amy Coco delivered the following speech at the 2025 ACBA Bench-Bar Conference.

Judges, colleagues – here, friends – hello!

I ask on first before assisting others "it is practical, even obvious – yet how often do we, as legal professionals, ignore that advice on the ground? Every day my practice reminds me what happens when we don't put –"

own oxygen masks on first – more than 30 years I have – judges, and – discover"

"anxiety, burnout, substance use born of us. Our profession is to guiding people

on page 10

## LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

### ACBA Knowledge Center offers on-demand legal resources for members

By ACBA Staff

Since its launch in May, the ACBA Knowledge Center has become a go-to digital resource for Allegheny County Bar Association members seeking timely, practical information to support their legal careers. The platform is available at knowledgecenter.acba.org.

The Knowledge Center houses a growing library of articles, webinars, videos, guides, and other professional resources covering topics such as law firm operations, legal technology, legal marketing, ethics, and client service. Content is provided by trusted legal industry sources as well as by the ACBA.

Designed to meet the latest trends, tools, and best practices, the Knowledge Center is available at no cost. Members can simply asked to enter their contact information before viewing or downloading materials. In some cases, content providers may follow up directly with members who access their resources. New materials are added regularly, and members who are encouraged to visit often to explore updated content tailored to their practice needs and professional interests.

Below are examples of two articles currently featured on the Knowledge Center:

- The general counsel's role has evolved – are you prepared for what's next?** As risk accelerates and data challenges mount, general counsel roles are being called to lead with strategic foresight, technological fluency, and global awareness. In this sixth annual report by FTI Technology and Relativity, based on insights from over 200 general counsel worldwide, you'll gain a timely in-depth look at the pressures facing legal departments in 2025 – and how your peers are responding. Key findings include:
  - +85% of GCs expect risk and legal demand to continue accelerating
  - +Regulatory compliance is the top risk for the second year running
  - +Generative AI, emerging data sources, and cross-border disputes are reshaping resourcing plans
  - +Data privacy, external investigations, and ESG are driving time and resources then ever
- Despite demand, 75% lack a legal tech roadmap – but investment is on the rise** Learn how fellow legal leaders are adapting operations, managing AI, and protecting brand reputation while navigating global compliance and litigation risk. (from Clio)

Transform your legal practice with trusted AI solutions professionals

As legal professionals – whether managing complex litigation or streamlining firm operations – staying ahead in technology adoption is essential. Our in-depth research offers actionable insights for enhancing productivity, and law firms aiming to implement AI solutions that truly enhance productivity, legal environment, 60% of law firms accuracy, and compliance in today's competitive advantage. This guide provides proven strategies to help you assess AI vendors, understand product maturity, and

continued on page 10

## Introducing the new Lawyers Journal

Fresh design, same trusted news function

By Dan Seibel

Content-wise, the publication remains true to its roots. You'll still find feature stories on the Pittsburgh Legal Community, scholarly articles, updates on law practice management, and long-standing columns by the ACBA President and Division Chairs. The order and structure of these sections, from News to Bar Bits, is now more consistent and easier to navigate. We've also improved how member-written content is presented. Prominent –about our non-accompany there –so readers connect faces

## Annual Golf and Bocce Tournaments set for July 28

For more information, visit golfcoba.sweetgives.com

Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) is the region's leading provider of civil aid for vulnerable residents. Its and pro bono partners offer representation in areas such as:
 

- Housing
- Eviction defense
- Domestic violence
- Child abuse/neglect
- Elder abuse
- Financial exploitation
- Family reunification
- Individuals and families rebuild stable lives

Again this year is the always-a-Pebble Beach raffish. The lucky will receive a three-night stay at Pebble Beach at the Lodge at Pebble Beach a round of golf at Pebble Beach 18 holes, or may opt for a \$500 cash prize.

Registration includes food and beverages, ball collection, a silent auction and great prizes. Sponsorships are also available, offering firms and businesses prominent exposure to more than 150 attendees.

For more information, including how to register, become a sponsor or golfcoba.sweetgives.com

## Right on! Bench-Bar '60s celebration a success

By Ron Chichowicz

The 2025 ACBA Bench-Bar Conference offered plenty of good vibes to its approximately 560 attendees who gathered to let it all hang out at the Seven Springs Mountain Resort in the Laurel Highlands, June 12-14.

This year's theme saluted the '60s decade, and it didn't take long for everyone to get the scene and do their own thing while they enjoyed the traditional spirit of wine, education and camaraderie which are the hallmarks of Bench-Bar.

Even though attendance was down slightly from 2024 due largely to the U.S. Open occurring on competing days in nearby Oakland, the conference was another "outta sight success."

"We had a lot of excitement around a really cool theme," said Mary Ann Fiorilli, ACBA Director of Membership, educational components were well received and well attended."

Fiorilli said that all the sporting and health and wellness events were popular, especially golfing and clay shooting. There also was the traditional barbecue and on Friday night attendees enjoyed a Motown band and strolling buffet with guest appearances by both Austin Powers and Foxy Brown.

Fiorilli also highlighted two new attractions, the first being a Cigar and Bourbon Tasting event, which drew more than 100 individuals. Fiorilli credited Greg and Shawn from Dirty

right stay at Pebble Beach  
at Pebble Beach  
may opt for a  
des food and  
tests, a silent

PHOTOS BY JAMES DIAMOND

continued on page 6