

# 2020 Virtual Bench-Bar Conference

August 27, 2020  Online via Zoom




## Registration Packet

16 CLE Programs: 13 Substantive - 3 Ethics - 6 CJE Credits

*Presenting Sponsor*



AFFINITY

-  4 CLE Learning Tracks
-  Seminars begin at 9 AM
-  Virtual Spring Meeting at 12:30 PM
-  Door prizes throughout the event

# Conference Agenda

Criminal Law



Family Law



Civil Litigation



Potpourri



9:00 AM Choose 1 of 2 Seminars

## Cannabis Chronicles: Update on Medical Marijuana and Personal Possession Issues



Berks County District Attorney John T. Adams and Assistant District Attorneys Kenneth W. Kelecic and Jason C. Glessner will lead a frank discussion on drug enforcement efforts in the wake of Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana law and the County's handling of cases involving small amounts of marijuana possession.

*(1 hour substantive CLE/CJE)*

## Avoiding Malpractice



Paul C. Troy, Esquire, will discuss issues related to avoiding professional liability.

*(1 hour ethics CLE) (5% USI Affinity discount)*

10:15 AM Choose 1 of 4 Seminars

## Criminal Law Update: Part 1



A perennial favorite, Stuart Suss, Esquire, will provide a comprehensive review of recent appellate decisions on criminal law and procedure.

*(1 hour substantive CLE/CJE)*

## Seminar Topic TBD



*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

## Practical Issues in eDiscovery



Brandon Harter, a Court-appointed discovery master, will share his knowledge of complex discovery issues to help you avoid admissibility pitfalls and ultimately improve your clients' chances of victory. He will also discuss why eDiscovery can be an effective resource for firms and practices of any size.

*(1 hour substantive CLE/CJE)*

## Municipal Law Update



A review of new cases and legislation in land use, zoning, intergovernmental cooperation, and topics of interest to solicitors and those practicing before local governing bodies, municipal authorities, and zoning hearing boards. Discussion will be led by Municipal Law Section Co-Chairs Joan E. London and Beth M. Kohl and David Hunter, Berks County Planning Commission Executive Director.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

11:30 AM Choose 1 of 4 Seminars

## Criminal Law Update: Part 2



A perennial favorite, Stuart Suss, Esquire, will review recent appellate decisions on criminal law and procedure.

*(1 hour substantive CLE/CJE)*

## Custody Trial Practice and Procedure



Berks County Common Pleas Court Judges J. Benjamin Nevius and James M. Bucci will join Gregory D. Henry, Esquire, for a robust discussion of witness preparation and presentation as well as the Rules of Evidence in custody trials. Family Law Section Co-Chair Lauren M. Marks, Esquire, will moderate.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

## Civil Judges Roundtable



Berks County Common Pleas Court Judges Madelyn S. Fudeman, Timothy J. Rowley and Jeffrey K. Sprecher will discuss courtroom rules and procedures as well as timely topics every civil litigator faces when practicing in Berks County.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

## A Guide to the Small Business Reorganization Act



Chapter 13 Trustee Scott F. Waterman, Esquire, will take a deep dive into this new bankruptcy law, which went into effect in February, and provide information every corporate and bankruptcy attorney needs to know on how the law can assist financially struggling small businesses.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

## 12:30 PM Spring Meeting

State of the Bench by President Judge Thomas G. Parisi

State of the Bar by President Eden R. Bucher

Criminal Law



Family Law



Civil Litigation



Potpourri



### 1:30 PM Choose 1 of 4 Seminars

#### Ethics for the Criminal Bar



Matthew Brunelli, Esquire, and Berks County Assistant District Attorney Pamela Van Fossen cover the Pennsylvania Code of Professional Conduct and other ethical rules applicable to both prosecutors and defense attorneys.

*(1 hour ethics CLE/CJE)*

#### The Masters: Rules and Procedures Unlike Any Other



Berks County Divorce Masters, the Honorable Jill Gehman Koestel and Louis M. Shucker, Esquire, will guide family law attorneys through the proper practice for requesting a Master and what to expect once you appear before a Master.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

#### The Impaired Client: Representing clients with limited capacity and their families



Estate Planning and Elder Law Section Chair William R. Blumer, Esquire, will look at the law pertaining to the capacity to sign various legal documents, tactics for confirming client capacity, and practical tips for preparing clients for future incapacity and helping their families respond appropriately.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

#### High-Tech Tips to Keep Your Practice Humming



Technology Committee Chair Jeffrey A. Franklin and Eric Robuck, CEO of The Valander Group, will provide the latest on Berks County's high-tech courtroom initiative, courthouse WiFi upgrades, WiFi security, passwords, and cybersecurity tips to prevent attorneys and practices of all sizes from falling prey to online threats.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

### 2:45 PM Choose 1 of 2 Seminars

#### PA Driver Licensing Issues and Justice Reinvestment Initiative Update



Get the latest information on two topics important to every member of the Criminal Bar in Berks County. James M. Polyak, Esquire, Berks County District Attorney John T. Adams, and Assistant District Attorneys Joseph R. Speece, III, and Jason C. Glessner will lead the lively discussion.

*(1 hour substantive CLE)*

#### Effective Advocacy Without Sacrificing Civility



Berks Bar Past Presidents Terry D. Weiler, Esquire, and Jill M. Scheidt, Esquire, will cover strategies for dealing with difficult counsel, clients and witnesses and other issues related to decorum and professionalism in the courtroom and in the legal profession.

*(1 hour ethics CLE/CJE credit pending)*

**Deadline to register is August 14, 2020**

### Register Online

Register and pay online at [www.berksbar.org](http://www.berksbar.org).

### Register by Mail

Please fill out the registration information on this page.

Mail, along with a check in the appropriate amount, made payable to:

Berks County Bar Association, P.O. Box 1058, Reading, PA 19603



**Berks County**  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
*Your Community of Lawyers*

### 2020 Virtual Bench-Bar Conference

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supreme Court # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\$95.00 (Members **before** 1/1/16)

\$85.00 (Members **after** 1/1/16)

\$150.00 (Non-Members)

**The Berks County Bar Association thanks our generous sponsors:**



The Valander Group LLC



**Cancellation Policy:** If the Conference is cancelled or postponed due to a public health emergency declaration by the federal government, state or county, registration fees will be refunded in full. If an individual decides to cancel attendance for personal or any other reason, written notice must be provided to the Berks County Bar Association by **4 PM on Friday, August 21** in order to receive a full refund. Cancellations made by individuals after August 21 will be subject to a **\$40 administrative fee**.

**Hardship Policy:** BCBA offers reduced tuition to allow attorneys experiencing financial hardship to fulfill their mandatory education requirement. For details and an application, contact the Executive Director, Kori Walter, at least 14 days before the program.