

# 2021 Bench-Bar Conference

August 25, 2021 ⚙️ DoubleTree by Hilton, Reading



## Registration Packet

**13 CLE Programs: 10 Substantive Credits - 3 Ethics Credits**

*Presenting Sponsor*



AFFINITY

- ⚙️ Registration begins at 8:30 AM, conference begins at 9 AM
- ⚙️ Lunch at 12:30 PM
- ⚙️ Cocktail reception at 5:15 PM

# Conference Agenda

## Criminal Law



## Family Law



## Potpourri



### 9:00 AM Choose 1 of 2 Seminars

#### Tracking SORNA

Berks County Supervising Assistant District Attorney Meg McCallum, Esq., and Berks County Assistant Public Defender Richard Joyce, Esq., will review key court decisions and policy issues related to the evolution of Pennsylvania's Sexual Offender Registration and Notification (SORNA) system, including a discussion of pending litigation in *Commonwealth v. Torsilieri*.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



#### Avoiding Malpractice

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

(1 hour ethics CLE credit) (USI Affinity discount)



### 10:15 AM Choose 1 of 3 Seminars

#### Criminal Bench Roundtable Discussion

The Judges of the Criminal Division, together with representatives from the District Attorney and Chief Public Defender offices, will discuss issues of concern to the Bench and the Criminal Bar.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



#### The Ins and Outs of Custody Evaluations

Timothy Ring (Ed. D) and Adrian Quinn (Psy. D) will help prepare family law attorneys for their next custody evaluation with a discussion looking at: methodology; standards for recommendation; red flags in an evaluation; how to deal with bias; and the latest data regarding adolescents.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



#### Post-Pandemic Municipal Practice

The COVID-19 pandemic caused changes in the way local governments operate and interact with residents. Municipal/Education/Real Estate and Environment Section Co-Chairs Joan E. London, Esq., and Beth M. Kohl, Esq., will discuss emerging issues, including: use of virtual options for meetings; workplace changes for municipal employees; COVID-19 vaccinations – mandatory or “encouraged”; and American Rescue Plan Act for local governments.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



### 11:30 AM Choose 1 of 3 Seminars

#### Criminal Law Update

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

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



#### Follow the Money: Undocumented Income for Support Calculations

Presenters Mark Caltagirone, ASA, CPA/ABV, Corey Robinson, CVA, and Randy Raifsnider, ASA, of Herbein + Co will guide family law attorneys through the process of calculating support in cases involving self-employed individuals and Non-W-2 income earners.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



#### Civil Bench Roundtable

Judges from the Berks County Court of Common Pleas Civil Division will provide civil litigators with an overview of Civil Court procedures following the COVID-19 pandemic.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)



## 12:30 PM Lunch

### Criminal Law



### Family Law



### Potpourri



## 1:45 PM Plenary Seminar

### Practicing Peak Performance in the Courtroom & Beyond

Learn about healthful and performance-enhancing habits during this discussion of how mental preparation, setting intentions, and executing a plan can prepare you for success in the courtroom or as you prepare for your first 5K run. Wellness Committee Chair Daniel C. Nevins, Esquire, will moderate a panel featuring Dena Breslin, MSPAS, CTACC, Alex Bernhard, Owner of New Age Hoops, and Zach Barker, a marathon runner, distance running coach at Alvernia University, and General Manager of Fleet Feet in West Reading.



(1 hour ethics CLE credit)

## 3:00 PM Choose 1 of 3 Seminars

### Road to Recovery



The seminar will provide a brief overview of the Berks County Drug Treatment Court program and help attorneys identify clients who would benefit the most from the program. Bar Association President and Assistant District Attorney Justin D. Bodor, Esq., will moderate a panel featuring: Berks County Court of Common Pleas Judge M. Theresa Johnson; Berks County Assistant Public Defender Amy J. Litvinov, Esq.; Jorge A. Acevedo, Pennsylvania Counselling Services; Mimi VanPelt, Berks County Adult Probation Office; and Zach Cross, a recent graduate of the treatment court program.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)

### Divorce-ish: Untangling Assets of Unmarried Couples



Learn some of the tools and tricks needed to assist unmarried couples divide their assets following a breakup. Peter F. Schuchman, Jr., Esq., and a surprise guest speaker(s) will cover the ins and outs of partition actions, co-habitation agreements, splitting personal property, and settling pet ownership issues.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)

### Estate Law Update



Estate Planning and Elder Law Section Chair William R. Blumer, Esq., and Orphans Court Rules Committee Chair Latisha Bernard Schuenemann, Esq., will provide an overview of recent practice updates and discuss key features of the SECURE Act, look ahead to anticipated tax law changes, and recent court decisions in this area.

(1 hour substantive CLE credit)

## 4:15 PM Plenary Seminar

### Implicit Bias and Cultural Competence



Gain an understanding of what implicit bias means and how it may influence the way you represent clients and make decisions. Keisha Hudson, a visiting professor at Temple University's James E. Beasley School of Law, will lead the interactive discussion.

(1 hour ethics CLE credit)

## 5:15 PM Cocktail Reception

**Discounted registration ends August 2, 2021**

**Register Online**

- 1.** Register and pay online at [www.berksbar.org](http://www.berksbar.org).
- 2.** Please select break-out sessions online at <https://bit.ly/3xZ1qQ8>

**Register by Mail**

- 1.** Please fill out the registration information and the break-out sessions on this page.
- 2.** Send check to the address below made payable to Berks County Bar Association to:  
Berks County Bar Association, P.O. Box 1058, Reading, PA 19603



**2021 Bench-Bar Conference**

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

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

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

\$175.00 (before 8/2/21)

\$225.00 (after 8/2/21)

**Please let us know if you have any special dietary requests.**

**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 Monday, August 16** in order to receive a full refund. Cancellations made by individuals after August 16 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.

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- Tracking SORNA (1 hour substantive CLE)

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- Criminal Bench Roundtable (1 hour substantive CLE)
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**1:45 PM: Plenary Seminar**

- Practicing Peak Performance in the Courtroom and Beyond (1 hour ethics CLE)

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