

VIRTUAL SOLICITORS SYMPOSIUM

July 8 & 9, 2021



PROGRAM SCHEDULE | Thursday, July 8, 2021

Up to 8.5 credit hours of continuing legal education are available, including 1 hour of ethics credit

8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Coffee with Colleagues

Meet, greet and mingle with friends and colleagues, moving among conversation circles at the Patio, Lobby, Fire Pit, Café, Garden, Billiards Room, Pool, Terrace, Lanai and Atrium.

9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.

Welcome

9:05 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

School Law Update, Part One

Michael Levin, Esq., *Levin Legal Group*, Huntingdon Valley, PA

Always a favorite session, PSBA General Counsel Michael Levin's School Law Update provides a lively overview of what's happening in the courts, new statutes and regulations, and other developments directly impacting public school operations and liability exposures, accompanied by his comprehensive written summary of the past year's legal developments in school law.

10:05 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Cybersecurity and Privacy Compliance for School Solicitors

Devin Chwastyk, Esq., *McNees Wallace & Nurick*, Harrisburg, PA

Cybersecurity and privacy present legal issues, not just information technology concerns! This session explains how school solicitors can lead in helping prevent data breaches and in keeping schools in compliant with federal and state privacy laws and regulations. Top cybersecurity threats and emerging student privacy issues are highlighted, with a focus on how these concerns should shape the drafting of school district policies, the negotiation of terms of vendor contracts, and more.

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Free Time

- 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Brown Bag Roundtable Discussions**
Bring your lunch to enjoy while comparing notes with colleagues on various topics of mutual interest. Join any discussion and move around as you please.
(Roundtable sessions resume on Friday and combine for 1.5 hours of substantive CLE credit). Visit available roundtables at:
- The Atrium - Arbitration Trends, hosted by John Audi
 - The Terrace - Transgender Issues, hosted by Peter Amuso
 - The Lanai - Labor Negotiations Trends, hosted by Ben Pratt
 - The Garden - Special Education Issues, hosted by Rachel Lozosky
 - The Fire Pit - Tax Assessment Developments, hosted by Howard Kelin
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Sexual Harassment Update: Who Is Really Protected and To What Extent?**
Kathleen Conn, Ph.D., J.D., LL.M., *King Spry Herman Freund & Faul*, Bethlehem, PA.
- Both Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protect individuals from discrimination “on the basis of sex.” The U.S. Supreme Court made clear in June 2020 that Title VII’s protections for employees are not just limited to biological gender, but also extend to discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation. It is also clear that protections from sexual harassment under the 2020 Title IX Regulations extend to LGBT individuals. Issues involving use of bathroom and locker room facilities remain contentious but impacts on athletic competition may be trickier to resolve. Now that the Biden administration has weighed in, how long will it be before the dust settles and what will be the outcome?
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:05 p.m. **Break**
- 2:05 p.m. – 3:05 p.m. **Employee Furloughs – Legal Requirements and Practical Considerations**
Howard Kelin, Esq., Jeffrey Litts, Esq. & Benjamin Pratt, Esq., *Kegel Kelin Litts & Lord*, Lancaster, PA
- Continued and increasing financial stress has prompted school districts to consider furloughing professional employees, administrators and support staff. Attorneys with Kegel Kelin Litts & Lord LLP will explain the opportunities and pitfalls, focusing on legal requirements and practical considerations.
- 3:05 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. **Announcements**
- 3:10 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. **Free Time**
- 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **Happy Hour Meet, Greet & Mingle**
Bring a favorite beverage to enjoy while catching up with friends and colleagues, moving among conversation circles at the Patio, Lobby, Fire Pit, Café, Garden, Billiards Room, Pool, Terrace, Lanai and Atrium. Door prize drawing at 5:00 p.m.; attendees must be “present” to win.

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9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. School Law Update, Part Two

Michael Levin, Esq., *Levin Legal Group*, Huntingdon Valley, PA

PSBA General Counsel Michael Levin continues his lively overview of what's happening in the courts, new statutes and regulations, and other developments directly impacting public school operations and liability exposures, accompanied by his comprehensive written summary of the past year's legal developments in school law.

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. No One Makes it Out Unscathed – Maintaining Realistic Work/Life Balance in Uncertain COVID Times

Brian Quinn, Esq., Education and Outreach Coordinator, *Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of PA*, Camp Hill, PA

Learn about strategies you can use to identify and alleviate trauma, boost well-being and achieve a healthy work/life balance. Studies show that the fear, anxiety and uncertainty emanating from the unprecedented generational and community trauma of the pandemic have dramatically increased risks of attorney impairment due to mental health disorders and unhealthy substance use. Education is the key to recognizing signs of trauma and other indicators that you, your colleagues, clients or family members may benefit from mental health services, and to overcoming associated stigma that can prevent such needs from being addressed.

11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Presentation of the 2020 President's Award for Distinguished Career Achievement to Howard Kelin, Esq., Kegel, Kelin, Litts & Lord Vincent Champion, Esq., Immediate Past President

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Break**

12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Brown Bag Roundtable Discussions**

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- The Fire Pit - Tax Assessment Developments, hosted by Howard Kelin

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Reviewing Board Policies With an Equity Lens**

Heather Bennett, J.D., Ph.D., director of school equity services, *PSBA*

Heather Masshardt, director of policy services, *PSBA*

To build a foundation for equity in school entities requires, it is critical that school solicitors understand what it means to apply an equity lens to the review and development of school board policies. This presentation focuses on how solicitors can support client school boards in using PSBA's newly developed resource "Reviewing Policies with an Equity Lens" to identify and address aspects of how policy language is written, understood and implemented that may unintentionally lead to barriers to student success and other disparities in equitably serving students.

2:00 p.m. – 2:05 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **PSBSA Board of Directors Planning Meeting**



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