

RAWLE'S REPORTS

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PITTSBURGH PARTNER



Charles A. Buechel, Jr.

in its Litigation Division.

Charles A. Buechel, Jr. has joined the Firm as a partner in our Pittsburgh office. Charlie focuses his practice in the areas of insurance coverage, medical professional liability, construction, casualty and premises liability, product liability, maritime, and environmental torts. He has more than 30 years of courtroom experience. Charlie has experience at every level of litigation practice, including the Pennsylvania Superior, Supreme and Commonwealth Courts. Before entering private practice, he served with the Attorney General's office

A member of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County, Charlie is a frequent lecturer and author on personal injury law, eminent domain, maritime law and other topics. His involvement with the Pennsylvania Bar Institute has allowed him to stay committed to defending the letter of the law and mentoring young lawyers.

He has been an Associate Opinion Editor and has served as the Editor of the *Jury Verdicts* project of the *Pittsburgh Legal Journal*. Charlie is an instructor of a number of Continuing Legal Education classes throughout the mid-Atlantic Region. He is an Adjunct Professor of the University of Pittsburgh's Swanson School of Engineering Masters of Science program in Construction Management.

Charlie earned his J.D. from Loyola University School of Law, where he was an Outstanding Academic Achievement Awardee, and a B.S. in Business Administration from Villanova University. He is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, as well as the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Charlie is a member of the Allegheny County and Pennsylvania Bar Associations.

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DEFENSE COUNSEL AWARD



Jeffrey A. Segal

Jeffrey A. Segal, a partner in our New Jersey office, received the 2012 **Defense Counsel of Distinction Award** from Quality Distribution, Inc., in February 2012. Jeff was presented with the award at Quality Distribution's panel counsel meeting, held in conjunction with the *DRI Trucking Law Seminar* in Scottsdale, Arizona. Jeff focuses his practice on the defense of transportation companies and their insurers. He is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of New Jersey and New York, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He graduated from Rutgers University with a B.A. He earned his J.D. from New York Law School.

Please contact Jeff at jsegal@rawle.com.

TLA ANNUAL MEETING



James A. Wescoe

James A. Wescoe was a presenter at the *Transportation Lawyers Association (TLA) Annual Meeting* in May 2012 in Naples, Florida. Jim addressed the Business and Commercial Litigation Committee regarding the new federal removal statute and its effects on motor carrier litigation defense strategies. He also made a presentation on strategies to secure the release of detained cargo. Jim is a partner in the Commercial Motor Vehicle section. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from Temple University. He is admitted to practice in the state courts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of Pennsylvania, the District of New Jersey, all the federal District Courts in New York, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

For more information, please contact Jim at jwescoe@rawle.com.



Gary F. Seitz

Gary F. Seitz addressed the *Transportation Lawyers Association Committee on Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights* at the *TLA Annual Meeting*. His topic was "*The Impact of the Supreme Court's Decision in Stern v. Marshall on Transportation Creditors Involved in Bankruptcy Court Litigation and an Overview of the Responses of Courts Around the Country.*" Gary is a partner in our Philadelphia office and concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial bankruptcy, commercial litigation and admiralty and maritime law. Gary graduated *magna cum laude* from Buena Vista University and from the University of Iowa College of Law. He obtained his Master's degree in Admiralty Law from Tulane University. Gary is admitted to practice in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third and Fifth Circuits and the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Pennsylvania, the District of New Jersey and the District of Delaware.

For more information, please contact Gary at gseitz@rawle.com.

CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

Marc F. Ullom, Of Counsel, and **Scott F. Griffith**, Partner, presented a program on the U.S. Constitution to nearly 30 students and several teachers from Philadelphia's Holy Cross Parish School in May 2012. The Constitution Program was presented by Rawle & Henderson in partnership with the Women for Greater Philadelphia (website: www.womenforgreaterphiladelphia.org), stewards of Laurel Hill Mansion in East Fairmount Park. The event was held at Laurel Hill Mansion, the restored summer home of the Rawle family on the banks of the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. The mansion is owned and maintained as a historic landmark. This was the second annual presentation on the Constitution that Marc and Scott have made to the Holy Cross Parish School students. Hosting the event was Alma Jacobs, president of the Women for Greater Philadelphia.

Marc and Scott presented information on Laurel Hill Mansion. They discussed Rawle & Henderson founder William Rawle, who started the firm in 1783, as well as his views on the Constitution.



Scott Griffith (l.) and Marc Ullom (r.), seated, with students from Philadelphia's Holy Cross Parish School at the Laurel Hill Mansion. Students in row directly behind attorneys (l.-r.): Darren Gillespie, Andrew McDaniel, Beaonca Ward, Carmena Green, Mahogany Williams and Azzure Lewis. Students in back row (l.-r.): Tylere Thomasson, Matthew Bempah, Rasheed Saunders, Vincent DiLeo, Justin Bryant, Charles Pinkney, Kiersten Adams, and Tyler Allen.

The attorneys and students talked about the Second Amendment—the right to bear arms—and Marc and Scott explained William Rawle's views on the amendment, as well as how the Amendment applies in today's society. William Rawle's grandson, a Union Army officer who fought in the Battle of Gettysburg, was also a

topic of discussion, along with the Civil War Amendments—specifically, the 13th, 14th and 15 Amendments. In addition, the students and attorneys went over two cases: *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954) and *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963). The program was received enthusiastically by the students and adult attendees.

For more information, please contact Marc at mullom@rawle.com or Scott at sgriffith@rawle.com.

PIP PRESENTATION



Dawn L. Jennings

Dawn L. Jennings and James R. Callan, Of Counsel in our Philadelphia office, did a presentation for Canal Insurance Company in Greenville, South Carolina on PIP (personal injury protection) statutes, regulations and claims handling practices. Dawn spoke about Pennsylvania and New Jersey no-fault law and practice, and Jim addressed New York's PIP law and litigation/arbitration of no-fault claims.



James R. Callan

For more information, please contact Dawn at djennings@rawle.com or Jim at jcallan@rawle.com.

ABA TIPS APPOINTMENT



Sonia Di Valerio

Sonia Di Valerio has been appointed Vice-Chair of the American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section's Commercial Transportation Litigation General Committee for 2012-2013. The committee examines the liabilities and obligations of commercial carriers, and offers the opportunity to meet and discuss ideas with other transportation industry professionals. Sonia concentrates her practice on the defense of trucking and bus companies and their insurers. She received her B.A. from Temple University and graduated from the Temple University School of Law. She is admitted to practice in the state courts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as well as the U.S. District Court for the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts of Pennsylvania, U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey and the U.S. Supreme Court.

For more information, please contact Sonia at sdivalerio@rawle.com.

ABA TIPS SPRING MEETING



Valerie Kellner

Valerie Kellner and **John T. Donovan** participated at the ABA/TIPS Spring Meeting *Natural Disaster Preparedness and Response* in Charleston, South Carolina. John was a speaker and Valerie was a moderator on the panel *Second Responders: Experts from Fire Investigation to Daubert*. Topics included the fundamentals of a fire investigation; selection of experts; scene preservation; spoliation and Daubert motions. **Valerie Kellner** is a partner in our Philadelphia office. She focuses her practice on product liability and general litigation. Valerie is the Chairperson for the



John T. Donovan

Products Liability Committee of the ABA/TIPS Section. She has previously served as the Chair-Elect and the Newsletter Editor for the Products Liability Committee. Valerie is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. **John Donovan** is a partner in our Philadelphia office and concentrates his practice on the defense of premises liability, product liability, toxic tort and construction law matters. He is admitted to practice in the federal and state courts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

For more information, please contact John at jdonovan@rawle.com

or Valerie at vkellner@rawle.com.

DISCIPLINARY BOARD



Meredith A. Mack

Meredith A. Mack, an associate in the Philadelphia office, has been appointed to a three-year term as a Hearing Committee Member serving the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, starting July 1, 2012.

Ms. Mack concentrates her practice in the area of environmental, mass and toxic torts. She graduated with a B.A. from Yale University in 2005 and earned a J.D. degree from Wake Forest University School of Law in 2008. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey as well as before the U.S. District for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

For more information, please contact Meredith at mmack@rawle.com.