

# BARRISTER

PUBLISHED BY THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

*Spring/Summer 2025*

## President's Message

Happy summer! I hope everyone is having a happy and healthy 2025.

As we move into these warm summer days, my time as President of the Barnstable County Bar Association has come to an end and I happily pass the "gavel" to your new President, Emir Sehic.

Over the past year, the BCBA has significantly expanded our resources for the community. The Probate and Family Court Lawyer of the Day program now serves the Nantucket and Dukes Division of the P&F Court, and our Conciliation program has expanded to include the Nantucket Division of the P&F Court.

Our Housing Court Lawyer of the Day program is a year old and has done a wonderful job meeting the needs of Housing Court litigants.

Thank you to our many volunteers with the Lawyer of the Day program, both in the Probate and Family Court, and in the Southeast Housing Court, and all of the attorneys who volunteer with our Conciliation program. If you are interested in volunteering, reach out to Joe Moynihan.

To further show our thanks, the BCBA is planning on hosting a volunteer appreciation dinner in the fall. Stay tuned for more information about this event!

We kicked off the new association year in September with a Probate Court Bench-Bar,

welcoming Judge Denise Meagher to Barnstable and wishing Judge Angela Ordoñez well in her retirement. Joining Judge Meagher and Judge Ordoñez on the panel for a Q&A were Judge Tierney, Register Welsh Perrino, Fist Asst. Register Long, Asst. Register Couture, Asst. Chief of Probation Hercun, AJCM Pouliot, and AJCM Friel. This event was followed by an informal social at Mattakeese Wharf Restaurant, sponsored by Sehic Law, PLLC.

In November we held our autumn Bench & Bar at Alberto's with guest speakers Judge Ordoñez and Scott Nickerson, Clerk of Courts, as a thank you for their years of service to the legal community.

The perennial favorite volunteer event at Cape Abilities was back again this year, with volunteers spending an afternoon in early December at the Cape Abilities Farm helping the organization get ready for the holiday season. Thank you to Board member Sara Kohls for spearheading this volunteer opportunity.

With changes to the abuse prevention order law, the BCBA hosted a training on Coercive Control in February, with a presentation from Attorney Jamie Sabino of Mass. Law Reform Institute, and a Q&A with Judge Lynch, Judge Tierney, Register Welsh Perrino, DA Galibois, and Attorney Susan Callan. Thank you to Board member Heidi Grinsell Couture for organizing a great event!

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We started the spring with a social event at Barnstable Brewing, welcoming new admittees to the Bar and to Barnstable County. Thank you to Rose Mase and Jed Grimm, our Board members who were in charge of the Young Lawyers Division and putting this event together.

The Massachusetts Appeals Court sat in the Barnstable Superior Court on June 4 and the BCAB hosted a lunch reception for the Justices and their staff following oral arguments at the Dolphin Restaurant, sponsored by the Law Office of Erin Barnes and Michael I. Flores, PC.

Finally, at the June Annual Meeting, we welcomed Susan Moran as the new Clerk of Courts for the Barnstable Superior Court and approved the proposed Officers for the upcoming year.

The BCBA could not function without the hard work of Executive Director Joe Moynihan—be sure to thank Joe for all he does!

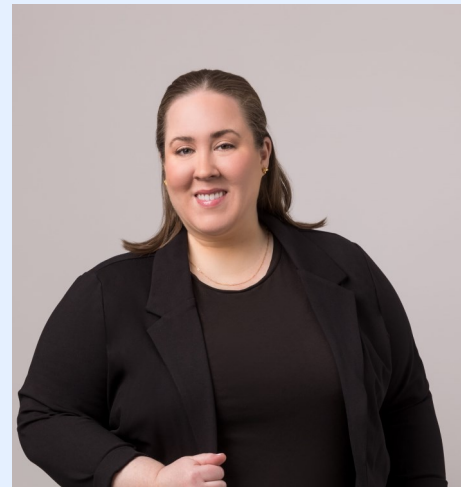
Members will all soon receive an email from Joe with information about the new membership renewal process and membership offerings. The BCBA website is in the final stages of an update, including an online membership directory where you can choose to have a publicly available profile identifying your firm and practice area, as well as the ability to post to the BCBA's online job board. Take advantage of these membership features . . .

and renew your BCBA membership!

A final thank you to the BCBA Board for their dedication to the organization. And, welcome to our new Board members, Eleanor P. Williams, Katie Sugermeyer, and Charles Sabbatt.

Good luck and enjoy the new association year!

Crissa A. Morton  
President, 2024-2025



#### **BCBA FY2025-2026 OFFICERS:**

**Emir Sehic, President**  
**Kara E. Leary Domingos, Vice President**  
**Sara J. Kohls, Treasurer**  
**Erin Barnes, Clerk**  
**Crissa A. Morton, *Ex Officio***

**Joseph Moynihan, Executive Director**  
**BarnstableCountyBarAssociation@gmail.com**

#### **Executive Board:**

**Nicole Ouellette**  
**Michelle Heepe**  
**Heidi Grinsell Couture**  
**Sabrina Kane**  
**Rose Mase**  
**Julie K. Woodward**  
**Eleanor P. Williams**  
**Katie Sugermeyer**  
**Charles Sabbatt**

# Sneak Peak of the new BCBA Website

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## Develop opportunities Keep informed Enhance your expertise

Join a body of dedicated and collegial professionals

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## Join

### Become a Member

Any member of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts residing or practicing law in Barnstable County, who is in good standing, may become a member of the Association. To do so, select one of the membership buttons below.

Admitted to Bar 2025:  
Membership Fee: fee waived

[View Form](#)

Member of the Bar prior to 2025  
Membership Fee: \$150

[View Form](#)

Government or Public Defender  
Attorneys and Bar Advocates or  
Legal Aid Attorneys  
Membership Fee: \$50

[View Form](#)

Retired (Over Age 70):  
Membership Fee: Fee Waived

[View Form](#)

Dear Association Members: Can You Help an Asylum Applicant?

My office has met with representatives of the Immigration Resource Center at Community Action Committee of Cape Cod & Islands (CACCI) to see if lawyers that are not immigration lawyers could assist them in any way to deal with a huge case volume.

In many cases, asylum applicants need assistance in completing paperwork and there are options for attorneys to file Limited Appearances to assist with paperwork. We've started this process in our office assisting an asylum applicant that was here on Temporary Protected Status (TPS). She is employed in hospitality, has two children and was driven out of her home in Haiti by unspeakable violence. The details are horrific. We are learning ourselves as we work our way through the process.

There is also the option to go further and assist at the asylum interview itself.

We are hoping to get together a group of caring lawyers that might even take one case, but anything we can do will help. Once we have a good enough group, we would schedule an educational meeting at CACCI and if we have off cape lawyers, we could also do it as a Zoom meeting.

We are not looking to become immigration lawyers. We're just looking to provide some needed help to good people in need during a humanitarian crisis. If you can help even one family, that's a wonderful thing. If you'd like to be on our list, please email me at [bruce@bierlaw.com](mailto:bruce@bierlaw.com).

Thanks very much, Bruce

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508-775-4500 (Office)



### **Litigation Attorney**

Gargiulo / Rudnick, LLP, an established AV rated, Mashpee (Cape Cod), MA law firm seeks a full-time litigation associate to focus on insurance defense practice. A hybrid remote work option is possible. Ideal candidate will have at least 2 years or more of experience in defending or prosecuting personal injury cases. Strong writing, research skills and computer proficiency required.

Base salary commensurate with relevant experience plus bonus structure based on billable hours. Benefits include single person health and dental plans; short term and long term disability coverage; 401(k); paid time off program; paid continuing legal education, bar memberships and Massachusetts B.B.O. Registration.

Please forward your resume to [mlk@grglaw.com](mailto:mlk@grglaw.com)



# REBA

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### *Judge Jennifer S.D. Roberts Joins REBA Dispute Resolution*



Hon. Jennifer S. D. Roberts (ret.) brings more than 40 years of experience to the REBA Dispute Resolution (REBA/DR) panel of neutrals, five years as a Land Court Judge, following 39 years in private practice in New York City, Boston and Cape Cod.

Judge Roberts served on the boards of Cape Cod Healthcare, The Cape Cod Foundation and the Barnstable County Bar Association, among other entities, ultimately becoming the chair of the Foundation Board (2011-2013) and the president of the bar association (2003-2004).

While on the Land Court Bench, Judge Roberts presided over a broad range of cases, including zoning and land use cases (among others, Dover Amendment cases and the interplay of local zoning and the Federal Telecommunications Act), easement cases, adverse possession claims, boundary disputes and claims involving condominiums.

In her 26 years practicing on Cape Cod, Judge Roberts focused on real estate, high-end residential construction (representing both owners and builders), and probate litigation, representing clients from the Cape and islands, Plymouth and Bristol counties. In private practice, Judge Roberts appeared at one time or another in all the trial and appellate courts of the Commonwealth.

To schedule a mediation session with Judge Roberts, email [adr@reba.net](mailto:adr@reba.net) or call Matt Zarrella at (617) 854-7559.

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