

The women of Eckert Seamans are a dynamic team of professionals, possessing a wealth of knowledge, experience, and talent. Individually and collectively, each is committed to providing clients with solutions that are effective, practical, and smart. Their ability and keen perspective are integral to the firm's success. The achievements of Eckert Seamans women in 2015 are as numerous as they are noteworthy, as are the accomplishments of the WIE organization as a whole. We hope that you enjoy reading about these successes as much as we enjoyed sharing in them.

### *Internal Promotions*

**Sarabeth Gaver, Rochelle Breier, and Krista Reale Samis** were elected as special members of Eckert Seamans.

**April Morgan Hincy** was promoted to equity membership in the firm.

**Renee Mattei Myers** was named chair of the firm's Associates Committee.

### *In the Profession & the Community*

**Ellen Bailey** co-chaired the Commission on Women in the Profession's 22nd Annual Conference, held May 7 at the Sheraton in Downtown Philadelphia. Ellen also introduced the luncheon keynote speaker, Nikki Johnson-Huston, who overcame a childhood of poverty and homelessness to become an award-winning tax attorney in Philadelphia with her own firm. **Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway**, who has completed her second term as co-chair of the WIP Commission, co-hosted the WIP Business & Breakfast meeting.

**Gabriella Cellarosi Daniel** has recently been named to the board of directors of The American Academy of Equine Art. She is also serving in a general counsel capacity to the academy.

**Kathleen Gallagher** was appointed to the World Meeting of Families Government Outreach Committee, which coordinated government support for the meeting in Philadelphia and visit by Pope Francis.

**Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway** was appointed by the Pennsylvania Bar Association as the Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) Liaison to the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Board of Directors. Bobbi is also a member of the WIP Executive Council. In

addition, Bobbi was elected to the SeniorLAW Center Board of Directors; the nonprofit improves the lives of older Pennsylvanians and protects their rights.

**Kimberly LeBlanc** was appointed to the D.C. Bar Foundation Young Lawyers Network Leadership Council

**Katherine Pomerleau** was elected council member of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Construction Law Section. Kate also organized the firm's participation in the successful 2015 Summer of Learn & Earn Clothing Drive, which collected professional attire for hundreds of low-income youth -- in collaboration with Dress for Success Pittsburgh.

**Grace Strom Power** was added as a member of the New Jersey Committee of the Regional Plan Association and was named a co-chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee's Women's Caucus. Grace was also elected treasurer of the newly formed RU PAC, which advocates for the interests of Rutgers University with the New Jersey Legislature and the Office of the Governor.

### *Speaking for Eckert Seamans*

**Jennifer Caron** co-presented "The SEC Disclosure Rule, MCDC Initiative and Future Compliance" at the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Fall Conference and at the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association 73rd Annual Conference and Trade Show.

**Jill Cohen** and **Amy Snyder** co-presented "News to Know – Recent Developments in Employment Law" at a New Jersey Bankers Association event.

**Jennifer Cordes** presented "Legal Trends in Environmental Law II" at the Atlantic Builders Convention.

**Karen Elliott** moderated a panel discussion entitled "Finding Your Passion" during the ACG Richmond Chapter's Women L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Exploration and Development) program. Karen was also a panelist at the Henrico Economic Development Authority Catalyst Business Workshop and presented "Solutions for Managing an Aging, Active Workforce" for a Council of HR Executives event in Richmond as well as "NLRA Obligations and Compliance in the Non-Union Workforce" for the National Business Institute.

**Kate English** and **Heather Stone Fletcher** presented "Health and Welfare Plan Update" at the PBI ERISA Update.

**Heather Stone Fletcher** and **Sandra Mihok** presented "The Affordable Care Act: Understanding Employer Shared Responsibility and Information Reporting Requirements" during PBI's 2015 Employment Law Institute seminar.

**Heather Stone Fletcher** co-presented "ACA Reporting and Cadillac Tax," to the certified public accountants of Grossman Yanak & Ford LLP.

**Heather Stone Fletcher, Clare Gallagher, Lindsey Conrad Kennedy,** and **Sandra Mihok** presented at Eckert Seamans' various Human Resources Forum programs throughout the year.

Several WIE members presented at the firm's Pittsburgh CLE in August: **Brett Heather Freedson** and **Deanne O'Dell** presented "The Telephone Consumer Protection Act;" **Clare Gallagher** presented "The Potholes, Pitfalls, and Perils of Employment Policies, and the Proper Posture for Legal Protection;" **Kathy Gallagher** co-presented "The Crime of Doing Nothing: Strict Liability for Corporate Officers;" and **Sandra Mihok** presented "The ABC's of HIPAA Breaches."

**Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway** had numerous speaking engagements this year. She presented/moderated the following sessions: "Analyzing Intellectual Property

Licenses and Avoiding Pitfalls," "Pleading and Proving Genericity and Other Scorched Earth Trademark Defenses, and "The Changing Landscape: Issues beyond marriage for the GLBT Pennsylvanian," for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute; "Fair Use Doctrine Expansion in the Digital Age" for the Clear Law Institute; "Fair Use or Foul: Transformation, Derivative Works, and What Remains of Traditional Tests in a Digital Age" for the American Law Institute; and "Decisions You Need to Know: Key Trademark Cases from 2014" for the International Trademark Association.

**Renee Mattei Myers** co-presented "Employees Behaving Badly: Mistakes Employers Make and How to Fix Them" at the Harrisburg CLE in September.

**Deanne O'Dell** co-presented "Alternative Energy Opportunities: What to look for and what to avoid" at the Harrisburg CLE in September.

**Grace Strom Power** was a panelist at "A Discussion about the Interaction of the NJ Rules of Professional Conduct and Lobbying" at the 2015 NJ State Bar Association's Town Hall Advocacy Day Program.

**Jennifer Rawson** was a panelist at Pennsylvania Bar Institute CLE program "How To Prepare the Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax Return."

**Krista Reale Samis** was a panelist for discussion "Ethically Speaking" at Perrin's Mid-Atlantic Asbestos Litigation Conference.

**Colleen Shields** participated in the panel session "PG Version of Truth or Dare," held at the 23rd Annual Delaware State Bar Association Women and the Law Retreat.

## *In the News*

Many WIE members contributed articles to firm-published client newsletters and alerts this year, including: **Evelyn Sahr** for the *Aviation Regulatory Update* and *Aviation Blog*; **Victoria Becker, Audrey Kwak, Sandra Mihok,** and **Katherine Pomerleau** for

*Construction Law*; **Heather Stone Fletcher** for the *Employee Benefits Alert*; **Karen Lee "Kitt" Turner** for the *Energy/Bankruptcy Alert*; **Grace Strom Power** for *Energy Alert* and *NJ Auto Industry Alert*; **Deanne O'Dell, Karen Lee "Kitt" Turner, Sarah Stoner, and Grace Strom Power** for the *Energy and Utilities Blog*; **Karen Elliott** and **Annemarie DiNardo Cleary** for the *Labor and Employment Alert*; **Brittany Wakim** for the *Professional Liability Update*; **Briar McNutt** for the *Securities Regulation and Compliance Alert*; and **Brett Heather Fredson** for the *Telecommunications Blog* and *Utilities and Telecommunications Alert*.

**Jill Cohen** authored "Misclassification Headaches: Understand the difference between employees and independent contractors" for *HR Magazine*.

**Gabriella Cellarosi Daniel** authored several articles for RateMyHorsePro.com, including "Six Considerations of a Lease-to-Buy Horse Sales Agreement," "Equine Jobs: Deciding the Independent Contractor or Employee Dilemma," and "Horses Being Horses: Six considerations after a riding accident."

**Aimee Czachorowski** co-authored "Chancery Grants Advancement to Ex-Director Guilty of Insider Trading," for the *Delaware Business Court Insider*. She also authored the chapter "Director and Officer Indemnification and Advancement Rights," which appeared in the ABA's *Recent Developments in Business and Corporate Litigation American Bar Association*. In addition, one of Aimee's posts on Francis Pileggi's Delaware Corporate & Commercial Law Blog was quoted on the widely read blog ProfessorBainbridge.com, by Stephen Bainbridge, a professor of law at the UCLA School of Law.

**Karen Elliott** authored "Feds target effective communication enforcement" for the *Richmond Academy of Medicine*. In addition, Karen was quoted in "A drafting tightrope: NLRB's new handbook guidelines shift balance," published by *Virginia Lawyers Weekly*.

**Kathy Gallagher** was featured as a *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* "Newsmaker" for her appointment to serve on

The World Meeting of Families' Government Outreach Committee.

**Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway** co-authored the book chapter "Preparing for a Possible Shift in Music Rights License Agreements" in the *Inside the Minds* series published by Aspatore Books. She also authored the *Law360* articles "When It Comes To Injunctive Relief, All IP Is Created Equal?" and "Who Owns The News? The Latest On Fair Use In The Media." She was also quoted in the *Law360* article "Law360 Cheat Sheet: NCAA's March Madness Trademarks," and authored an article on the same topic for the *Philadelphia Business Journal*, "Why using 'March Madness' to promote your business can land you in legal trouble." In addition, Bobbi authored "No Longer an Afterthought? Design Patents Post-Egyptian Goddess" for the *Commercial Damages Reporter*.

**Audrey Kwak** authored "'Incompetence' Is Not Material: Contractor's Defective Performance Doesn't Excuse Owner's Noncompliance with Pre-Termination Notice to Cure" for the *Construction Executive* as well as "Warning to Federal Government Prime Contractors and Their Sureties: No Notice to Cure Means No Right to a Setoff" for the Allegheny County Bar Association's Construction Law Section Newsletter.

**Amy Roy** was featured in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article "Hardship story ignited lawyer Amy Roy's giving spirit," about Neighbors for Neighbors, the nonprofit she established to help local families in need.

**Grace Strom Power** co-authored "Primer on Repossessions in New Jersey" for publications of the Independent Automobile Dealers Association. She was also quoted several times in *PolitickerNJ*.

**Brittany Wakim** was a contributing author to *Risk Management Handbook for Healthcare Organizations*, published by the American Society for Health Care Risk Management.

## *Honors and Awards*

**Evelyn Sahr** was selected for inclusion in the nationwide rankings in the 2015 edition of *Chambers USA* as a “Notable Practitioner” in Transportation: Aviation – Regulatory. In addition, **Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway, Joan N. Stern, Karen Lee “Kitt” Turner,** and **Bridget Montgomery** were selected for inclusion in the *Chambers USA* Pennsylvania rankings.

Each year, *The Legal Intelligencer* publishes a list of what it deems the most significant lateral moves of the year. This year, **Joan N. Stern** and **Dacia Haddad** were included in the annual list, which recognizes those who either “had a significant impact on their departing firms, were a big coup for their new employers, created a lot of buzz in the community when they made a move or all of the above.”

Six WIE members were named among The Best Lawyers in America, including **Kate English** (notably, named the Pittsburgh ERISA Law “Lawyer of the Year”), **Karen Elliott, Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway, Sandra Mihok, Renee Mattei Myers** and **Joan N. Stern.**

**Dot Davis, Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway, Audrey Kwak** (Rising Star), **Jodi Oley** (Rising Star), **Joan N. Stern,** and **Karen Lee “Kitt” Turner** were selected for inclusion in the 2015 edition of *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Charlotte Bednar** (Rising Star) and **Jennifer Whelan** were selected for inclusion in the 2015 edition of *Massachusetts Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Gabriella Cellarosi Daniel, Kimberly LeBlanc,** and **Sarah Shyr** were selected for inclusion as “Rising Stars” in the 2015 edition of *Washington D.C. Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Sarah Greenberg** was selected for inclusion as a “Rising Star” in the 2015 edition of *New York Metro Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Krista Reale Samis** was selected for inclusion for the third-consecutive year as a “Rising Star” in *Delaware Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Karen Elliott** was selected for inclusion for the fourth-consecutive year in *Virginia Super Lawyers Magazine.*

**Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway** and **Evelyn Sahr** were selected for inclusion in the Legal Media Group Expert Guide *Women in Business Law 2015.*

**Bobbi Jacobs-Meadway** was awarded the 2015 Arthur H. Seidel Distinguished Service Award, which is given to a senior member of the intellectual property bar who has been active in legal education and mentoring and has achieved recognition as a leader in the field in Pennsylvania. Bobbi was also a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from *The Legal Intelligencer.* Her other honors of 2015 include being selected for inclusion in the latest edition of *Who's Who Legal Trademarks,* receiving glowing remarks in the *2015 World Trademark Review 1000,* and winning three bronze medals at the International Dragon Boat Federation's World Dragon Boat Racing Championships in Ontario.

**Laura Kurtz** was the featured attorney in The National Association of Bond Lawyers May 2015 e-newsletter “Member Spotlight.”

**Audrey Kwak** was named a 2015 Fast Tracker by the *Pittsburgh Business Times.*

**Renee Mattei Myers** was selected as a member of the Class of 2016 of the Anne B. Anstine Excellence in Public Service Series, a professional leadership program.

**Kimberly LeBlanc** received the Joseph Hairston Alumni Award, which is awarded to alumni of American University Washington College of Law for exceptional contributions to the law school as well as the legal profession.

**Amy Roy** received the 2015 Service Above Self award from the Cranberry Township Noon Rotary Club in recognition of her work with Neighbors for Neighbors, a nonprofit she established in 2011 to collect and supplies basic necessities for children and families struggling to make ends meet.

**Colleen Shields** was awarded Padua Academy's 2015 Non-Faculty Award for Distinguished Service and Leadership. Colleen was also selected as the winner of the "PEOPLE: Lawyer 2015" category of the Happening List on NorthDelaWHEREHappening.com.

**Joan N. Stern** was confirmed by the Pennsylvania State Senate as a member of the Public Employees Retirement Commission. Joan also received a leadership award at a fundraising gala that supports scholarships for graduates of the LEAP Academy University Charter School in Camden, New Jersey.

**Grace Strom Power** was again named to New Jersey Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg's 2015 "Power Women" list in *PolitickerNJ*.

**Karen Lee "Kitt" Turner** was honored by the Turnaround Management Association for her role in the reorganization of an exit financing facility for Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company, L.P., which TMA named the matter "Transaction of the Year" in the large company category.

### *Office Initiatives: Harrisburg*

The Harrisburg WIE chapter reprised several of its most successful annual events this year, including the Eckert Seamans Golf Open & Spa Retreat, held at the Hershey Country Club and The Spa at Hotel Hershey. Guests had their choice of golf or spa treatments as an expression of the firm's gratitude and appreciation for their business.

### *Office Initiatives: Washington, D.C.*

The D.C. WIE chapter hosted a fall wine tasting event on October 29. There was a great turnout from potential and current clients. Attendees included representatives from Interstate Hotels, Hilton Worldwide, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, OriGene Technologies, Intuit, Hager Sharp, Bennett Communications, Citi Private Bank, Eagle Bank, FINRA, and EPA, just to name a few. There

were approximately 20 clients/potential clients in attendance, as well as participation from Eckert Seamans lawyers including Evelyn Sahr, Gabriella Cellarosi Daniel, Kimberly LeBlanc, Mark Johnston, Chris Bennett, Charlie Zdebski, and Sarah Shyr. The sampling of French wines was enjoyed by all, as well as the artisanal cheeses and charcuterie, and lovely desserts. A special thank you to Kate Cromie and Katy Mahoney for their coordination and planning efforts.

### *Office Initiatives: Wilmington*

The Wilmington WIE chapter hosted a fun paint and sip event for clients and friends of the firm at Pinot's Palette. The ladies had a great time creating their masterpieces, getting to know each other, and enjoying some great wine and food. Special thanks to **Tara Lattomus** and **Aimee Czachorowski** for organizing this event.