

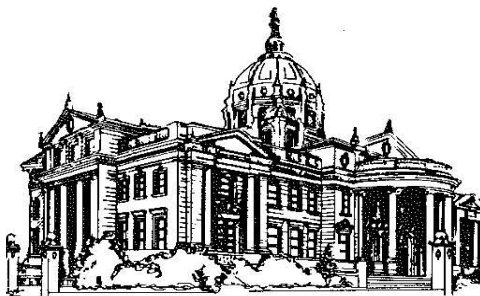
WASHINGTON COUNTY REPORTS

CONTAINING FOR TEMPORARY USE ADVANCE SHEETS OF THE DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES OF THE 27TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA AND THE OFFICIAL LEGAL NOTICES AND ADVERTISEMENTS OF THE SEVERAL COURTS OF THE COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA. Established March 31, 1920 as the **Official Legal Periodical** for Washington County, Pennsylvania. Owned & Published since January 1, 1958 by the **Washington County Bar Association**, 119 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301

Vol. 106 No. 22 – DECEMBER 11, 2025

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**SERVING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

MOTIONS COURT SCHEDULE

CR#/Suite#	<p>Complete info @www.washingtoncourts.us/101/Judges <i>Note Senior Judge Kathy Emery moved to CR#4/Third Floor/#3005</i></p> <p>COURTHOUSE CLOSED DEC. 24-25 BAR OFFICE CLOSED DEC 24-26.</p>
Costanzo, Valarie CR#7/1001	Motions Tu & Th at 9:15a.m. Motions in person, with sign up at least 24 hours prior to presentation. Judge of the Term, Criminal: March, May, July, Sept, Nov. For complete Standard Operating Procedures: https://www.washingtoncourts.us/194/Valarie-Costanzo .
DiSalle, John CR#2/2002	Effective July 7, 2025 , all Family Court motions presented on behalf of parties represented by counsel shall be handled remotely via email, fax or mail to chambers. Attorney must e-file all motions prior to emailing them to Judge DiSalle's staff. Counsel for filing party must notify all necessary parties that the motion is being filed and shall clearly indicate to the court whether the motion is contested. Contested motions shall include a scheduling order. Pro Se motions and emergency motions (i.e. those involving the health, safety and welfare of a child or risk of flight) shall be presented on Tuesdays at 9:15a.m. in courtroom #2 with requisite five (5) days' notice to all necessary parties.
Lucas, Michael, CR#6/1006	Motions 1st-20th of each month on M 1:15p and Tu-Fri 8:45a Civil Judge of the Term, 1st-15th of each month. Motions Court is held in person. Motions sign-up in person, mail or email. Original motion to be filed with Prothonotary prior to presentation and copy of motion delivered to chambers to arrive by noon (12:00p) the business day prior to the scheduled presentation.
Neuman, Brandon CR#1/2001	Tu, W & Th at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Civil: 15th to the end of each month. Motions in person, with signup by Noon the business day prior to presentation; signup in-person, by mail, or by email. Motions submitted by mail or email: original to be filed with Prothonotary, copy to Judge's office. Uncontested motions dropped off or emailed to amber.ross, court.crier.neuman or law.clerk.neuman all @washingtoncourts.us. NO MOTIONS 12/23, 12/24, 12/25, 12/30, 12/31
McDonald, Traci CR#5/1004	Tu & Th 9:30a. Motions in person, with signup by Noon the business day prior to presentation. Judge of the Term, Criminal: Aug., Oct., Dec. See Standard Operating Procedures at https://www.washingtoncourts.us/258/Traci-L-McDonald
Pettit, Jesse CR#3/2003	Tu & Th 9:15a. Motions in person, with signup for Tues. motions by Noon the Friday prior and signup for Thurs. motions by Noon the Monday prior. See Standard Operating Procedures: https://www.washingtoncourts.us/375/Jesse-D-Pettit-Judge .

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Editor: Frank Arcuri, Esq.; Assistant Editor: Kathy Sabol, WCBA Executive Director.
Washington County Reports USPS 667-460. Subscription Rate \$85.00 for 52 Weekly Issues.
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OBITER DICTUM

From the ABA Journal Daily Newsletter: [1] The U.S. Supreme Court recently agreed to review the question of when a migrant arrives in the United States, in a case that could determine whether migrants intercepted before crossing U.S. borders can apply for asylum. The Trump Administration in July petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, which held that migrants stopped on the Mexico side of the U.S.-Mexican border have the right to apply for asylum in the United States and be screened for admission. Solicitor General D. John Sauer and other Trump Administration lawyers wrote in their petition that “the decision [of the 9th Circuit] thus deprived the Executive branch of a critical tool for addressing border surges and for preventing overcrowding at ports of entry along the border.” The case arises from a class action lawsuit filed in 2017 by thirteen asylum-seekers in the immigrants’ rights organization El Otro Lado. They alleged then that U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agents were unlawfully “denying asylum-seekers access to the U.S. asylum process” by turning migrants away at border ports of entry. In 2022, a judge in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California held that the class of migrants who were turned away in the process of arriving in the United States were unlawfully denied their right to seek asylum. A divided panel on the 9th Circuit affirmed. [2] A former Alabama judge accused of using his office for personal gain and lying about it was recently convicted on 17 of 18 counts against him. The 17 counts that led to conviction alleged that Judge Gilbert P. Self, Sr., the former presiding judge of the 11th Judicial Circuit in Lauderdale County, Alabama, used public money for personal purchases. According to the prosecutor, Judge Self used public funds to pay for a couch, alcoholic beverages, eyeglasses and vacations, including skiing, cycling and beach trips. He was also accused of using public money for tuition at conferences that he didn’t attend and trying to escape accountability by lying to a grand jury and public auditors. Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall announced the verdict November 7th. *Other News:* Claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to call character witnesses rejected when PCHA petition failed to present any potential character witnesses to testify as to their availability or willingness to serve as character witnesses. *Commonwealth v. Hollabaugh, 2025 Pa. Super. 227 (October 3, 2025).*

Note: Obiter Dictum does not necessarily reflect the views of the employees, officers, and/or members of the Washington County Bar Association. Obiter Dictum is not an editorial, it is a compilation of items about the law, attorneys, and related matters. It is not intended to endorse or promote any particular point of view.

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

Position Opening—Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Valarie Costanzo, President Judge

PURPOSE: To assist a Judge with research, writing, scheduling, and organization necessary to maintain and dispose of cases that are presented to the Courts for resolution.

BACKGROUND/SKILLS REQUIRED: A Juris Doctor degree from an American Bar Association-accredited law school is required. Must be able to perform legal research and write summaries and conclusions. Computer skills are necessary. Physical considerations. This position requires the ability to communicate effectively in person, by telephone and in writing. The individual must use a computer and, therefore, must possess finger dexterity and be able to interpret a computer monitor. Must be able to access file drawers; therefore, some bending, reaching and stooping may be necessary. Must be able to read legal research materials. The individual works in an office environment. Researches legal topics and drafts opinions and orders, as well as correspondence. Attends Court proceedings, including hearings, trials, routine motions, and pleas, as requested by the Judge. Organizes, schedules, and maintains the case list and briefing and argument schedules. Communicates with the public and attorneys, by telephone or in person. Attends conferences with the Judge, attorney and litigants. Attends educational sessions for civil, criminal, family court, orphans court updates. Performs all other duties and or special projects as assigned and on an as needed basis.

TO APPLY: Please submit a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to President Judge Valarie Costanzo. Do not submit an online application. Applications will be accepted by e-mail at jennifer.houpt@washingtontcourts.us or by mail at 1 South Main Street, Suite 1001, Washington PA 15301

Washington County Bar Association – Winter Bench Bar

Fri., Jan. 23, 2026 -- Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe & ZOOM

REGISTRANT (please print): _____

PASCID#: _____

(Offerings may change due to registration #s, tech issues & other unavoidable factors) Indicate course & zoom or in-person attendance

	SEMINARS (topics/speakers/zoom subject to change).	REGISTER by 1/9/26	Time	In-person	Zoom
BG	"Bridge the Gap" – Amy Coco, moderator. Required by PA Supreme Court for newly-admitted attorneys prior to 1 st CLE compliance deadline (registration open only to newly-admitted attys).	4e	8a-12p		n/a
1a	Energy Law: "Old Leases: Validity & Termination" P Atencio	1s	8a		n/a
1b	"SCOTUS Case Law Update" C Woods	1s	attend		n/a
1c	"2026 in the Civil Division 'All is Well'" J Takah, Judge Lucas	1s	1 of 3		
2a	"Partition Actions" F Kosir	1s	9:15a		n/a
2b	"Occupational Fraud: Profile of a Fraudster" J Petrancosta, G Landgraf	1s	attend		
2c	"Autism: Clients & the Courtroom" J Torisky	1s	1 of 3		n/a
3a	"Access to Justice: Elder Law Services" Judge Lucas; K Gustine, K Hinkel, J Hale, M Mikluscak	1e	10:30a		
3b	"Beyond High Conflict: ACEs & Generational Trauma" Dr D Gilman	1s	attend		n/a
3c	"Criminal Law Update" J Mihalov, J Friedmann; Judges Costanzo, McDonald, Pettit	1s	1 of 3		n/a
4	★ Lunch, "State of the Judiciary," & Plenary CLE ★ CLE (12:15p): Inaugural William D. Phillips Symposium: "Balancing Advocacy & Ethics" PA Supreme Court Justice C Donohue; Judge Faldowski; Judge Gilman; J Gismondi; L Phillips, Mod.	1e	11:30a-1:15p		
5a	"Stress Management in the Legal Profession" C Sauers, S Brookman	1e	1:30p		n/a
5b	"e-Discovery" J Unice	1s	attend		n/a
5c	"Family Law Update" L Lyons, D Wolf, B Clancy, Judge DiSalle; K Bojarski, mod.	1s	1 of 3		
6a	"Benefits of Charitable Giving in Estate, Tax, & Financial Planning" A Walz, J Piszczor	1s	2:45p		n/a
6b	"Applied AI in the Practice of Law" M Gray	1e	attend		
6c	"DBoard Updates & Ethics Issues" R James	1e	1 of 3		n/a
7	"The Whiskey Rebellion: A Distilled History of an American Crisis" Brady Crytzer, author & historian (Wall St Journal's 2023 list of "Ten Books to Read," book signing to follow program)	1s	4p		
8	Happy Hour ~ in-person event limited to paid WBB/CLE registrants; others/guests \$40pp.*		5-6:30p		n/a

BRIDGE THE GAP (BTG): Practicing <12 months = \$50, >12 mos. = \$100
Lunch/Happy Hr included; no audit/CLE fees on morning CLEs (mark attendance above)

Bridge the Gap = \$ _____

SPECIAL PRICE ALL DAY WBB →

Same price in-person or zoom; mix & match any/all 7 CLE credits at the same price
In-person ALL DAY WBB incl 7 CLE credits, breakfast, lunch, snacks, & happy hour

WCBA Mbr \$345 =
< 5 yrs in practice \$305 =
& Full-Time NPO/Govt/Ed Attys
Attys not WCBA \$545 =

A la Carte =
Per credit CLE fees
Audit / Non-Atty fee
Lunch fee (if no CLE)
Happy Hour Only / Guest fee
Add'l WV/OH CLE fee

A LA CARTE Registration / WCBA Mbrs: # _____ credit (7 max) x \$60/credit = \$ _____ =
Mbrs <5 yrs in practice, FT NPO/Govt/Ed: # _____ credit (7 max) x \$50/credit = \$ _____ =
Attys NOT WCBA Mbrs: # _____ credit (7 max) x \$95/credit = \$ _____ =
Audit (no CLE credit) & Non-Attys: # _____ seminar (7 max) x \$35/seminar = \$ _____ =
 Lunch ONLY \$25pp (no CLE); Happy Hr ONLY & HH Guests \$40pp = \$ _____ =
 OH WV = \$75 each state (flat fee covers any/all seminars) = \$ _____ =

Pay to "Washington County Bar Association" 119 S College St, Washington PA 15301
Ph 724.225.6710. Fax 724.225.8345. Email wcba@washcobar.org. **No refunds after 1/9/26!**

TOTAL DUE =

+\$50 late fee after 1/9/26

\$ _____

Pay by Credit Card Online (Calculate amount due [+ 3% cc fee]), user QR code or pay w/ link: <https://square.link/u/ma5bQTsl>

or Check # _____ **If paid online by credit card, please indicate Amount Paid: \$ _____ Date Paid: _____**



ESTATE NOTICES**FIRST PUBLICATION****Belfiore, Philip J.**

a/k/a Philip Belfiore
Late of Borough of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executor without delay.

Co-Executor: Matthew S. Belfiore
aka Matthew Scott Belfiore, 27
Maryland Ave., Houston, PA
15342, David B. Belfiore aka David
Brian Belfiore, 230 Alexander Ave.,
Strabane, PA 15363,
Attorney: Jeffrey P. Derrico, Esq.,
Greenlee Derrico Posa, LLC, 60 E.
Beau St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Carroll, Jean J.

Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: M. Marie Ewing aka
Mildred M. Ewing, 129 Wellington
Ave., Washington, PA 15301
Attorney: Jeffrey P. Derrico, Esq.,
Greenlee Derrico Posa, LLC, 60 E.
Beau St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Gallimore, Dawn D.

a/k/a Dawn Darlene Gallimore
Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1721

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to re-

quest all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Christopher Daniel
Taylor aka Christopher D. Taylor,
261 Hooks Lane, Canonsburg, PA
15317

Attorney: Christine Brown Murphy,
Esq., Zacharia Brown Law Offices,
108 W. McMurray Rd.,
Canonsburg, PA 15317

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Gomez, Frank

Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1739

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Susanne E. Gomez,
728 Mission Hills Drive,
Canonsburg, PA 15317
Attorney: Eva H. Ahern, Esq.,
Peacock Keller, LLP, 95 West Beau
St., Suite 600, Washington, PA
15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Gwilliam, Ralph M.

a/k/a Ralph Marshall Gwilliam
Late of Hickory
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1618

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Ralph W. Gwilliam II,
140 Avella Rd., Hickory, PA 15340
Attorney: Glenn A. Smith, The El-

der Law Offices of Shields & Boris,
1150 Old Pond Rd., Bridgeville, PA
15017

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Kay, Carolyn Joanne

a/k/a Carolyn J. Kay
a/k/a Carolyn Kay
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1714

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Donna M. Jones c/o
Attorney: Stephanie M. Sewak,
Esq., Law Office of Stephanie M.
Sewak, P.C., 90 W. Chestnut St.,
Suite 606, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Naylor, Vaughn T.

Late of Scenery Hill
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1722

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Virgil Thomas
Naylor, 1525 E. National Pike,
Scenery Hill, PA 15360
Attorney: James P. Liekar, Esq.,
38 W. Pike St., Canonsburg, PA
15317

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Nickerson, Martha A.

a/k/a Martha A. Collins
Late of Bentleyville
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1728

The Register of Wills has granted

Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Sherif Collins, 5413 Count Turf Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Palfreyman, Erin Catherine
Late of South Strabane Township
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-01718

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administratrix without delay.

Administratrix: Betsy Anne Eakin, 20 Valley View Dr., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq., Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S. Main St., Suite 614, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Raymond, John
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1740

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Angela M. Raymond, 819 9th St., Irwin, PA 15642
Attorney: Kevin M. Hanley, Esq., 3367 Indian Ridge Dr., Moon Twp., PA 15108

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Rose, Willa P.
a/k/a Willa Rose
Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Michael S. Rose c/o
Attorney: Frank Arcuri, Esq.,
125 South College St., Washington,
PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Shonts, Lori Jean
Late of Coal Center Borough
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Chad Oliver Shonts,
108 Federal St., Coal Center, PA
15423

Attorney: Phillip C. Hook, Esq.,
430 East Oakview Dr., Suite 101,
Waynesburg, PA 15370

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

Trembach, Patricia J.
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Judy A. Brunasky c/o
Attorney: Frank C. Roney, Jr., Esq.,
228 South Main St., Washington,
PA 15301

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TRUSTEES' NOTICE

Elizabeth Peduti Revocable Living Trust dated May 7, 2002 amended October 12, 2018. Elizabeth Peduti, late of Marianna, Washington County, PA, died September 21, 2025.

All persons having claims against the trust are requested to make known the same to the undersigned or their attorney and all persons indebted to the decedent are requested to make payment to the undersigned without delay.

Frank Peduti, Co-Trustee
837 Monterrosa Drive
Myrtle Beach SC 29572

Sharon Laughner, Co-Trustee
2104 East National Pike
Scenery Hill PA 15360

Dorothy A. Milovac, Esquire
Peacock Keller, LLP
95 West Beau Street
Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 22,23,24

SECOND PUBLICATION

Baumgartner, David Kevin
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administratrix without delay.

Administratrix: Audrey D. D'Emilio aka Audrey D. DEmilio, 1120 Sparrow Rd., Norristown, PA 19403
Attorney: Thomas O. Vreeland, Esq., Bassi, Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., 62 E. Wheeling St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Davis, Alan Cyrus

a/k/a Alan C. Davis
Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1695

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Tracy A. Davis, 173 Roscommon Pl., McMurray, PA 15317

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Farabee, Douglas E.

a/k/a Douglas Eugene Farabee
Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1682

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Deborah E. Farabee
aka Deborah Eileen Farabee,
593 Western Ave., Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: Kathryn A. Gioia, Esq.,
Bowles Rice LLP, 1800 Main
Street, Suite 200, Canonsburg, PA 15317

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Himich, Paul Peter

Late of New Eagle
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Mark Himich, 309 6th

Ave., New Eagle, PA 15067
Attorney: Blane A. Black, Esq.,
223 Second St., Monongahela, PA 15063

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Izzo, Richard T.

a/k/a Richard Izzo
Late of Carroll Township
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1574

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Lorraine Kapolka,
210 Jackson Ave., Rostraver Twp.,
PA 15012

Attorney: Mark E. Ramsier,
823 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, PA 15012

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Johnson, Adda May

Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1727

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: James Harry Hixon a/k/a
James H. Hixon, 211 Ridgview
Dr., Venetia, PA 15367

Attorney: Donald B. Formoso,
Esquire, Peacock Keller, LLP,
95 West Beau St., Suite 600,
Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Maggs, Donald Christopher

a/k/a Donald C. Maggs
Late of Borough of Finleyville

Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-0813

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Charles L. Murray,
763 Steiding Church Rd.,
Swanton, MO 21561
Attorney: Joseph M. Loy, Esq.,
1624 Duchess Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15236

WCR Vol 106 Issues 21,22,23

Ondulick, Janice L.

Late of Charleroi
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executors without delay.

Co-Executors: Keith Anthony Ondulick, PO Box 213 Rt. 88, Chester Ave., Roscoe, PA 15477, Daniel Brian Ondulick, 631 McCrea Ave., Donora, PA 15033,
Attorney: Herman J. Bigi, Esq., Bigi & Walsh, 337 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022

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THIRD PUBLICATION

Chitty, Shirley Lucille

a/k/a Shirley L. Chitty
Late of Venetia
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1607

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims

against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Stephen W. Chitty, 104 Sunrise Lane, Venetia, PA 15367
Attorney: Deborah L. Lesko, Esq., 373 Vanadium Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Collins, Jane England

a/k/a Jane E. Collins
Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1422

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Zane A. Cimera, 2198 Jefferson Ave., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Davis, Lawrence D.

a/k/a Lawrence Dean Davis
a/k/a Larry Davis
Late of Amwell Township
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1651

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Michele Washinski a/k/a Michele Lee Washinski, 79 Crile Road, Washington, PA 15301
Attorney: Karen E. Bononi, Esq., Peacock Keller, LLP, 95 West Beau St., Suite 600, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Drugmand, Roland Albert

a/k/a Roland A. Drugmand
Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1565

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Renee D. Lingle, 104 Apple Court, McMurray, PA 15317
Attorney: James K. Goldberg, Esq., 301 Grant St., 14th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Harris, Thomas Arthur

Late of North Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1673

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Thomas Anthony Harris, 114 Conklin Road, Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Dorothy A. Milovac, Esq., Peacock Keller, LLP, 95 West Beau St., Suite 600, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Helfer, Lillian B.

a/k/a Lillian Helfer
Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1698

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the

decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Alan J. Helfer, 338 Deerfield Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317
Attorney: Andrew H. Sweat, Esq., Sweat Law Offices, 375 Valley Brook Road, Suite 112, McMurray, PA 15317

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Jackson, Larry

Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-01520

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Michael Brown, 3153 Westwind Dr., Allison Park, PA 15101

Attorney: Lawrence J. Maiello, Esq., MBM Law, 424 S. 27th St., Ste. 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Jones, Joan E.

a/k/a Joan Elizabeth Jones
Late of Chartiers Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-01659

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executors without delay.

Co-Executors: Jody L. McIlvaine a/k/a Jody Lynn McIlvaine, 2019 Sabino Dr., Washington PA 15301; Douglas M. Jones a/k/a Douglas Mark Jones, 406 Forrest Ave., Houston, PA 15342
Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq., Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S. Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

McDonough, Gary William

Late of Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Stacey Zuver,
310 Branch Creek Trail, Summer-
ville, SC 29483

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Perowski, Rita A.

a/k/a Rita Perowski
Late of Fredericktown
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Patrick G. Morgan, Jr.
aka Patrick Gerald Morgan, Jr.,
17 Abbeywood Lane, Canonsburg,
PA 15317

Attorney: David B. Bassi, Esq.,
Bassi, Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., 111
Fallowfield Ave., P.O. Box 144,
Charleroi, PA 15022

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Prevost, Rosemary

a/k/a Rosemary M. Prevost
Late of Midway
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1598

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jennifer L. Brezinski
c/o Attorney: Peter K. Darragh,
Esq., P.O. Box 435, Hickory, PA
15340

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Raveglia, Sylvia

a/k/a Sylvia M. Raveglia
Late of Venetia
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-01672

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executors without delay.

Co-Executors: Dale Yecko, 4 Har-
vest Dr., Cranberry Twp., PA
16066; Victor Yecko, 1021 Dale
Rd., Finleyville, PA 15332
Attorney: Kate Cleary Lennen, Esq.,
Myers Law Group, LLC, 17025
Perry Highway, Warrendale, PA
15086

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Shostak, Michael

Late of Borough of Burgettstown
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Gail Detweiler-Shostak
c/o Attorney: Jocelyn M. Sudar,
Esq., Nalli, Elias & Assoc., PC,
150 Pleasant Dr., Suite 101,
Aliquippa, PA 15001

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

Weber, Joan L.

a/k/a Joan Leigh Weber
Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-25-1640

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jeanne L. Hale a/k/a
Jeanne Lynn Hale, 100 Woodside
Dr., McMurray, PA 15317
Attorney: Charles A. Merchant,
Esq., Merchant & Kay, LLC,
300 Mt. Lebanon Blvd., Ste. 220-A,
Pittsburgh, PA 15234

WCR Vol 106 Issues 20,21,22

NAME CHANGE NOTICE

Change of Name Notice

In Court of Common Pleas of
Washington County, Pennsylvania,
Civil Division: Docket No. 2025-
6396

In Re: Petition of MacKenzie Elaine
Cordera, a minor, by the Petitioner,
Justin White and Kimberly Lucas
natural parent or guardian, for
change of name to MacKenzie
Elaine White

To all persons interested: Notice is
hereby given that an Order of said
Court authorized the filing of said
Petition and fixed the date of Janu-
ary 2, 2026 and time of 9:15a.m. in
Courtroom 6 in the Washington
County Courthouse, Washington,
Pennsylvania, for a hearing, when
and where all persons may show
cause, if any, why the request of the
Petitioner should not be granted.

WCR Vol 106 Issue 22

MEMORIAL MINUTES — AARON RENEE COLBERT

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL DIVISION

IN RE: MEMORIAL MINUTES OF AARON RENEE COLBERT

RECORD OF MEMORIAL MINUTES IN THE ABOVE CAUSE,
BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALARIE COSTANZO, P.J., JOHN F. DiSALLE, J.,
MICHAEL J. LUCAS, J., TRACI L. McDONALD, J., JESSE PETTIT, J.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

\P—R—O—C—E—E—D—I—N—G—S

(Thereupon, the Memorial Minutes for Aaron Renee Colbert began at 4:22 p.m.)

PRESIDENT JUDGE COSTANZO: The Court convenes to honor our esteemed colleague, Renee Colbert. Again, I'm honored to recognize the President of the Washington County Bar Association, Deana Stephens.

MS. STEPHENS: Good afternoon, may it please the Court, and welcome to the members of the Washington County Bar Association and colleagues, guests and friends of Aaron Renee Colbert.

I would like to welcome the Chairman of the Bar Association's Legal History and Biography Committee, and any speakers and guests of today's Memorial Minutes.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Ms. Stephens. May it please the Court, ladies and gentlemen, honored guests, members of the Washington County Bar Association, this is the time and place set aside for the Memorial Minutes of Renee Colbert.

I am pleased to present Chris Cardinale to give the principal address. Chris.

MS. CARDINALE: May it please the Court, good afternoon. Most of you know me. For those who don't, my name is Christine Cardinale, and I go by Chrissy. I'm here to memorialize my dearest friend and fellow lawyer, Renee Colbert.

People often ask me, when did you meet Renee? She and I often laughed about that. The fact that neither one could pinpoint a day, or a moment, or even a year of our first encounter. Yet we knew for certain the circumstances, the days and years prior to any formal introduction.

She was at the Allegheny County Public Defender's office, and I was a law clerk in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. She was a mover and shaker, and I admired her confidence from a distance. We shared mutual friends, we attended the same social functions and we later realized how often we had been in each other's company for many years.

While we never were formally introduced at that time, that would be the late 90's or early 2000s, I was always drawn her knowledge and beauty. I guess we knew of each other for a very long time.

Then sometime in 2017, we came face to face in dependency court here in Washington. We raised our hands to shake, and said in unison, "You don't know me, but I know you." We laughed before we got to work, as she spoke about Chrissy simultaneously to my Renee. The rest is history.

Everyone here knows Renee's reputation in court. No matter the nature of her case, or the merit of her position, she was a sure challenge to any opponent. She loved the law, and stayed up late most nights working on cases. She was truly a spitfire. Lawyers admired her style, and judges appreciated her preparedness.

When asked a question she had not foreseen, Renee would reply with her slow, Oklahoman, "Well," only long enough to sort her thoughts and form her response. The reply would inevitably be eloquent, if not profound.

Renee was quite the zealous advocate. She didn't just take the cases that were sure winners. She took cases that sparked her compassion and challenged her opponent. She was known to fight for the underdog, and possessed very strong convictions from which she would never waiver.

Yes, Renee's career was very important to her. She held herself to an especially high standard in the courtroom, yet she never criticized others who may not have sought to meet her standard. Rather, she often led by example, style and compartment unique to an old schooler. She spoke so eloquently, never at a loss for words. Funny, though, she called me her wordsmith. And here today, I'm wondering why.

But everyone in this room knows Renee Colbert, Attorney at Law. I want to share with you the Renee that I knew. Yes, always a lawyer, of course, the Renee I knew was so very much more. Renee and I spoke every day, if not more than once. She called our phone conversations debriefing sessions, though topics ran the gamut, from what was coming up on the docket, to the cases we shared, to the attempts she had made to put out the garbage on the wrong day, and the deadpan response expressed by the trash czar in her building. Real life, modern day Lucy and Ethel, Renee and I laughed at ourselves and each other daily. That is how we were.

As I look back on our relationship, I'm reminded of the bond we shared, it was unique for two seasoned, veteran female lawyers. While we didn't share much history before 2017, we did reflect on common experiences. I do believe that our commonness was greater than our differences. It strengthened the bond. It didn't take much time to recognize that we would think alike in so many situations. For the first time for both of us, we found the comrade in the law one who would validate our opinions, and keep us grounded in thought, where no one else ever had.

So often, judges and lawyers confused us in the courtroom, or the conference room, or of course on the street, that we became accustomed to answering on the other's behalf. She called me her other half, and contended that we were collectively unbeatable. When she was mistakenly called Ms. Cardinale, she voiced that she was just so thrilled. I knew the feeling, especially when I was afforded the highest compliment during a two-hour Zoom hearing, when the hearing officer repeatedly referred to me as Ms. Colbert.

A great storyteller, Renee could chat with the most prestigious of her acquaintances at fancy restaurants; yet she appeared to relate to even the most downtrodden folks at the local bar. I believe her best quality in conversation was her ability to listen, to offer a sympathetic ear, which always promised a positive solution.

She was a guru in the law, a walking law dictionary. She was a mentor to all of us. I know that I am a better practitioner, having known her these last eight years so closely.

Then there were the moves Renee made. For one reason or another, Renee found herself displaced quite a few times. Early on, Mark, my late husband, would help. But later, when Mark could no longer help, Renee would have a motley crew of grateful clients, my son, and myself.

I will never forget the last move. She told me that a former client would be bringing his truck, so I needn't enlist my son's pickup. She had arbitrarily chosen a weekend when Joey, who was always her favorite assistant, was out of town, of course; repeatedly having assured me that we wouldn't need him; that the movers had done the heavy lifting.

So I arrived at the burned-out condo, expecting to supervise, only to discover that I would be the muscles on the job, loading dozens of boxes, together with loose odds and ends into my Jeep and her Nissan. We had ourselves a convoy in the grandest of Beverly Hillbillies style.

All in all, we laughed more than I will the rest of my life, and a cherish it now. Renee was my rock throughout my husband's illness. Not only did she organize my friends and colleagues to cover for me so I could be bedside during his long illness, she also managed to stop and see Mark, often with a pie or cake, anything to bring a smile to his face, or more importantly to boost his appetite. She would pop in and then out just as quickly, and she was no doubt off to Court or a meeting. She always made time for a friend.

I am a crier, obviously. Renee was not. On those not so seldom occasions, where I would feel like crying, Renee would always head it off at the pass. All stone faced, Renee would say, "Go wash your face," and, "Don't cry."

You'll mess up your makeup."

I would respond with my mouth saying, "I can't help it. I'm sad."

And she would say, "I know."

Then, in April of 2022, when we together first learned of her diagnosis in her hospital room, she caught me welling up with tears. She touched my hand and said, "I do understand. Yes, it is therapeutic to cry." I realize now, that she was consoling me.

Renee was a pillar of strength throughout her own disease. She was so pragmatic and matter of fact about it. I struggle with wondering whether she knew her fate. She was always so insightful. I tend to believe that she did. She was so brave. To quote our friend and colleague, Dennis Popojas, Renee was a warrior. She kept working, and advocating, and laughing, and chatting, and fighting, a true warrior to the end.

Renee was proudly eccentric. She was magnetically personable. She was an intellectual. She was a free thinker. She was fun. She was perky. She was a connoisseur fine wine. She was an active football fan. She was an appreciator of music. She was a genuine dog lover, and she was a true friend.

Renee was a great friend to so many, and Renee was the best friend to me. Thank you.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Christine. I would now like to introduce Mr. Jeffries.

MR. JEFFRIES: Thank you, Mr. Vreeland. President Judge Costanzo, thank you, and the judges of the bar.

I don't have any prepared remarks, but I've been going over this for the last few days, just thinking about Renee, because Renee and I had a very unique relationship.

See, Renee was full of surprises. And she was a huge Oklahoma Sooners fan, as you know. And any time they would be on ABC on Saturdays, I would call her or text her and say, "The Sooners are on." Because I never liked the Sooners, because Barry Switzer beat the Steelers in the Super Bowl. But she brought me to the Sooners to be a Sooners fan. So thank you to Renee for that.

But Renee, she meant a lot to me and to my professional life, because no matter how busy we get, no matter how frustrated we get, she always taught me to be compassionate and loving to my fellow attorneys. We all lose our temper, we all say nasty things to each other. But Renee was the type, it would roll off her back. Because she was wiser than we ever were, or are, I guess.

The last time I saw Renee was in Greene County, a few days before she passed away, and she looked like a million dollars. She came into that courtroom, she had this fur coat on, she looked fabulous. Even Judge Dayich remarked, "Wow, you look great, Ms. Colbert."

And it was a real gut punch when Dennis Popojas called me a few days later to tell me that she passed way. Renee and I, we had a lot of conversations about God, actually, and Jesus. She was always interested in my Bible study that I attended, and she and I had a deep, deep conversations about our creator, and she was a believer. And I have no doubt that she is with Him now.

But I think maybe she might have talked him into, "Hey, let me come in and sit in on juvenile court once in a while." Because she would be very forceful sometimes.

But she was one of the top three people that I would always trust to cover for me, or to do something for me. That being Dennis Popojas, Mark Adams, and Renee Colbert. Carrie had those three on speed dial for me.

And I remember one particular time, that I was crazily booked, had to be in two places at once, I was in another county. She dropped whatever she was doing, and said, "I'll be there."

I cannot thank enough — I'm so grateful that I knew Renee. I am so grateful that I had lunch with her often at the Union Grill. She loved that buffalo chicken salad I can't have the onion ring sometimes, but it was okay with her, she said okay.

But she really became a character down at the Union Grill at lunchtime. If you go and ask the bartenders down there who do the lunch crowd, say, "Hey, I want the Renee Colbert salad." They would know what it was. Because that is what he always ordered.

And I can't tell you how many times I was down there and she picked up my check, just because she did. And she was part of our lunch club, me and Dennis and Mark were in, she could always go to Osaki with us, Plaza Azteca.

And every single time I was around Renee, she made my life better. And I think she made everybody's life better. And I think she made the court system better. She made her clients better.

And Chrissy is right. She was a walking law encyclopedia, law book, I guess. She knew stuff chapter and verse, and hard working, and I always looked up to her. And I still continue to look up to her. And I still pray at night and ask her for advice on what I should do on some juvenile cases or whatnot.

But I think we're all very lucky. We should be very grateful for the time that Renee was with us. It's very sad that she was taken away so suddenly and so quickly, but that's what happens to good people. They get used up. They get used up. Her love was used up.

And I just can't say enough about her. I think about her every day. I really do. And Christina is down there nodding. She really rounded up the troops to be here today. That is a great thing you did, and that goes to show how much everyone cared for Renee. So with that, I say, you know, Renee, Godspeed. I know I'll see you again someday. And maybe we'll have that buffalo chicken salad, and I can have extra onion rings on it. But that's all I have to say. Thank you very much President Judge Costanzo for your time.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Mr. Jeffries. We would now like to recognize Ms. DeMarco.

MS. DEMARCO-BREEDEN: Thank you, Mr. Vreeland. Good afternoon, may it please the Court, friends, colleagues, first, I want to thank the Washington County Bar Association for organizing this event and allowing me to speak about our dearly departed friend and colleague, Renee Colbert.

Several words come to mind when I think about Renee, and they include compassionate, intelligent, diligent, witty, quirky, and zealous. Words cannot adequately express the impact Renee has made on our profession, and from my standpoint, Renee was a very close friend and mentor of 15 years.

It's surreal that back in 2018, I had the honor of presenting Renee with the Robert Ceisler Professionalism Award. I was the young lawyers, division president at the time. And it was during a Bar banquet where many of you were present to witness her receive this very prestigious honor.

I highlighted why she was deserving of the award and included her many accomplishments and contributions to our profession, specifically her willingness to mentor young lawyers. Now, I stand before you seven years later, feeling equal parts of sadness that she's no longer with us, and gratitude for having the honor of knowing her and calling her a friend for so many years.

Renee and I met back in 2011, when I was working as an intern in the courthouse. As I began my legal career, Renee and I grew closer. We began practicing together in juvenile and dependency court in 2016, but during that time, I also worked as a prosecutor, and Renee was a criminal defense attorney.

Renee and I spent countless hours working on our dependency cases. But also acting as a prosecutor/defense attorney on some of our respective criminal cases. Renee taught me to think more like a defense attorney when approaching a case that I was prosecuting. And I can only hope that I helped her think like a prosecutor when approaching a case that she was defending.

Renee was the quintessential trial attorney. Her ability to think on her feet, zealously advocate for her client, and captivate jurors and judges alike was nothing short of exceptional.

A couple of things that I would like to note about the friendship I was honored to share with Renee. Many of you probably know that Renee was quite the foodie. She had restaurants that she frequented, but she was also eager to try new ones when they opened.

So my husband travels out of state for work, and there were many times over the years, where she and I would have what she called Saturday night dinner dates. She exposed me to many restaurants all over Pittsburgh, from upscale restaurants to little holes in the wall. All were delicious.

But my favorite, by far, was Rico's in the North Hills. Renee and I would go there and consult with the sommelier about what type of wine to drink. Almost always, we landed on a California Chardonnay. Renee and I shared many glasses of Chardonnay over the years, whether we were in person or talking on the phone after hours. We would laugh until we cried, until it physically hurt our sides. She had an impeccable sense of humor and an infectious laugh.

My final memory of Renee is one that I will cherish forever. This past February, I got to celebrate Renee's 70th birthday with her. She had recently moved to the Mon Valley, which is where I grew up, and we went to the Tap Factory in Fallowfield to watch Chrissy's son, Joey, play. It was such an enjoyable evening and Renee was so happy to be celebrating such a milestone birthday.

A week or so later, I hosted a Galentine's party at my home. For those of you who are not familiar with the term, it's an unofficial holiday to celebrate female friendships. Renee was there, and actually came early because she wanted to make homemade cocktail sauce from scratch. It was the best I ever tasted.

More importantly, for those who know me pretty well, I am not exactly the most talented cook in the kitchen. I bought this rather large filet mignon for the party, and I needed help preparing it. Renee immediately came to the rescue. We cut it in half, seasoned it, put it in the oven, closely monitored it, and ultimately sliced it for everyone to enjoy. I have no doubt in my mind that had she not been there to help me, I would have ruined that filet and/or burned down my house. She was truly a lifesaver.

Even though Renee had been sick, she was in such good spirits that night and was so happy to see so many of our friends. She passed away a couple of weeks later, and for many of us, that party was the last time we saw Renee.

I am grateful beyond words that my final memory of her was filled with nothing but love and laughter. As I'm sure many of us could, I could run this for hours with all of my fond memories of Renee. But I know at some point, she would tell me to shut up and quit fussing over her already.

So Renee thank you for making our profession a better one. Thank you for making me a better lawyer. Thank you for being such a great friend. You were one in a million, and continue to be loved and sorely missed by so many.

I hope that all of you will join me at the Union Grill after we adjourn to have a celebratory cocktail in honor of Renee. Thank you.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Ms. DeMarco. Are any other members of bar that wish to address the assemblage this afternoon? Not seeing any, may it please the Court, we'll start with Judge McDonald.

JUDGE McDONALD: I'll move up because I know that sometimes my voice drifts off, and I actually did write down some comments, because Renee was very special to me. And Chrissy, my condolences to you. I am a crier, too.

I am a crier, and I loved Renee. She was smart, witty, quirky. She was small in stature, but she had this strong and smart resolve, right? She was a fierce and loyal advocate for her friends and for the clients that she represented.

But at the same time, although she was this fierce warrior, as described, she always brought a smile to the people who were around her. She brought joy. Think about it. Renee makes us smile when we think about her, when we think about her entering the room.

She was one to stand up for everything, and stand up for those who needed help. They were qualities that she displayed both professionally and personally. I observed her as a zealous advocate in court, and I think others described her that way. She had a legal mind like no other. She embraced justice and she fought for clients in dependency court and in criminal court more. But it was more than just a fight. She became their companion. She became their warrior. She became their sword and their shield.

She was a genuine champion for the underdog for injustices and inequalities. She was fighting for Native American rights here in our the Courts before anybody even thought about talking about it; right? And she even provided legal services, which many of you may not know, to the Washington branch of the NAACP for quite some time. Her clients trusted her. Her colleagues trusted her. The Courts trusted her.

Small in stature, smart, and strong in resolve, but she could calm the craziest of clients. Think about it. I know we can all think of many of those folks that came before the Courts and no one could calm them down. Somehow, Renee was able to keep them calm and calm the most aggressive of sorts that we had.

She just had this relaxing presence that was more than just relaxing. It was a sense of security; it was as sense of approachability; it was a sense of confidence; and that sheer joy that she just brought. It was just part of who Renee was.

When I asked some other people about Renee, it didn't surprise me that the young attorneys said that they looked up to her to provide guidance, when a lot of times, other, older attorneys weren't there.

She would always make herself available not only to young attorneys, but also to the Court. Many times in dependency court, we were running through the courthouse looking for people. Renee was always available. And Renee and Chrissy were interchangeable, many times, back and forth. But Renee was like that in both her professional and personal life.

I didn't get to spend a whole lot of time outside of the courtroom, but the time that I did have, I cherished. We were able to spend a couple of New Year's Eves together. We were able to have a couple of dinners together, and she was very close with my father.

She was really easy to fit in with anyone and to blend in with any crowd. You didn't have to work at being a friend to Renee, she just was. And that's part of that what whole funny, quirky personality that was Renee.

Even when she was having her own health challenges, she was a true friend to my father. I will never forget, I knew she was going through a lot, and he was asking about her, but he had a knee replacement, and he was really down about it, because keeping him from being able to have — he had even less mobility than he already had.

And even when that was going on, and she had her challenges, she went and she got this cookie jar for him. Do you remember that? Yes, she got a cookie jar. And it was — he was to proud of this cookie jar. My dad's nickname is Cookie, for those of you who don't know.

But he was so proud of this cookie jar that she brought, and it didn't have cookies in it at all. It didn't have cookies with sugar and dough, but it did have cookies of encouragement and inspiration and jokes. And so she had all of these things that she had stuffed in the cookie jar, and she said, "Cookie, if you don't feel like, you know, you're having a good day, just reach in and get one of these cookies."

And he loved it. He kept talking about it. The smallest of gifts, the kindest of acts, the joy that was Renee. And that was a small piece of the joy that she brought to so many. She was will be dearly and deeply missed. Thank you.

JUDGE DiSALLE: Thank you. I first met Renee when we were interviewing her for the criminal conflict position for the County. And at that time, it was only one person. And we were so impressed with her resume, and her wealth of experience, and demonstrating her knowledge, and far beyond just criminal court. She had a very good rapport in all areas of the law, it seemed.

We did hire her. There was no question about who we were going to hire for that position, and she served with distinction as the criminal conflict attorney, and then, of course, moved on into dependency court, and other responsibilities.

But throughout that time, we would have — I would appoint Renee for different things, criminal, guardianship, and children's issues. And clearly, her real passion was advocating for children, clearly.

And I would agree with all the remarks about her personality. She was always upbeat, even when she was going through those significant health issues. And we always — we would laugh in a way when she would call and say, "I'm so sorry. I can't make it to this hearing. Can we reschedule?"

And I'd say, "Renee, you just had surgery. Yes, we've already taken care of it."

But that was her dedication, even as sick as she might have been, she was always dedicated to being there and making sure everything got done, that she didn't miss anything. And certainly, no one ever appeared in court more repaired than Renee Colbert. Absolutely. Renee was so thorough, so prepared, always on top of everything. You really had to admire her as an attorney. And of course, you have to admire her as a person, and she really was a lovely person. And she will be sorely missed by the Court and all the members of the Bar. Thank you.

JUDGE LUCAS: Renee represented the most noble part of our profession. She was a zealous advocate, as many of have said. She was honest. She was sincere, and she brought dignity, oftentimes to individuals who had done indefensible things.

Beyond that, during a trial that I presided over, where Renee was the defending an individual charged with some pretty serious offenses with a firearm, I found out what a great actor she was. And it took the best poker face I could have, because she sprung it during closing argument.

The case involved a man who entered a home over in Canton Township with a weapon, threatened the people in the home. As things occurred, he got in to an altercation with individuals in the home that spilled out into the street.

The police rolled up on the scene, and had great video of the end of the incident. But for the charges in the case, the critical events weren't covered or depicted on that dash—mount cam. So the witnesses in the case had differing statements as to what happened, and the advocacy in the case focused on the circumstantial evidence and the inferences that could be drawn from the different stories that had been given.

But we had a missing eyewitness. Nobody other than the parties involved actually saw what happened on that street before that police cruiser pulled up and caught the end of the incident.

During the course of testimony, one of the witnesses who heard something testified about his yard, that was next to his house, and across from where the incident occurred. He had a tomato patch. So in Renee's closing, she pulled a chair up to the jury rail and told the jury that she was a tomato that had witnessed the entire incident.

And she masterfully spun a yarn with all that circumstantial evidence, and with pinpointing some problems with the Commonwealth's evidence, a couple witnesses in particular, to drive home the point that her client was not the aggressor. He was just trying to get home.

Renee secured an acquittal. And as I said, I had to use my best poker face. I felt bad for the prosecutor in the case, because afterwards, he hung his head and said that he had now lost to a tomato.

But it just shows something about how far Renee would go, ethically, to defend a client, and how hard she would work. She was a joy to have in the courtroom. She was a great asset to our court system, and we all miss her dearly.

PRESIDENT JUDGE COSTANZO: I had the pleasure of working with Renee for over a decade, whether in the her capacity as a privately attained attorney or as a Court appointed attorney. She appeared in Court before me hundreds of times. Renee was an exceptional attorney whose kindness, professionalism and dedication to justice left a lasting impact on all of us who knew her.

Renee had a very unique gift of working with even the most difficult clients, accepting court—appointed cases, when others hesitated. She had a remarkable ability to treat all of her clients fairly and with dignity, regardless of their race, gender, level of education, or even their prior criminal history.

Her ability to relate to people from all walks of life truly set her apart from others. I recall one extremely difficult Defendant, who I will not name, although, of course, I remember the name, in a criminal matter years ago. And he had multiple cases and was entitled to court—appointed counsel.

Over a span of time, he had been through a public defender and several court—appoint attorneys, some of them may be sitting in here right now. Through no fault of those persons, none of them could deal with him and his antics, and each eventually asked to withdraw.

It got to a point where I had no idea, because we only have a handful of attorneys who are willing to take court appointments in criminal cases. Probably true for dependency cases and some of the other areas, as well. But we only had a limited number of attorney. We had already exhausted several of them at this point, so I was really baffled, talking to my staff, "Who are we going to call on now?" Then finally, it popped in to my head, Renee would be excellent for this difficult man that nobody can seem to relate to, talk to, explain the evidence that was clear in the case. And just basically, for him to finally, cordially discuss the merits of his case. Nobody was successful with this.

So I asked my secretary to reach out to Renee. I said, "You have to be up—front with her. I don't want you to surprise her with this. Let her know he is a challenge, but I think she might have that ability that others just didn't naturally have." No matter how good the other attorneys were, just that ability to break through to difficult people who have trouble relating to, let's say, attorneys, and listening to attorney's advice, and things along those lines.

So my secretary called her. She immediately gave her an answer that she would accept the Court appointment, even knowing he was so difficult, and had been through a number of attorneys, all of them Renee probably knew.

So she immediately accepted. She didn't even have time to look into the charges. A lot of times when my staff calls an attorney and says, "Will you take this case?"

They say, "What are the charges? Let me look at the docket?" And they'll get back to us a little later to see whether they're willing to take it. She didn't hesitate. "I will absolutely take the case, no problem." She was always willing to assist the Court, no matter what the ask was.

After a couple of months on these cases that had lingered for a very long time, miraculously, Renee worked out a negotiated plea deal on all of his criminal cases.

The Defendant felt heard, it was clear in the courtroom. He was very satisfied. He was happy with his attorney, after he had been through so many that he had not felt satisfied with. The Defendant was happy. He felt like he was heard. He got a fair deal. The Assistant DA was elated to have a resolution of these cases after a few years. I was so thankful that she was willing to assist the Court, when assistance was greatly needed.

As I mentioned earlier, Renee appeared before me many times over the years. At the conclusion of each proceeding, and before turning her back and walking away from the bench, she would ask, ever so politely, "Your Honor, may I please be excused?"

Personally, I have not heard other attorneys ask me this, and it's not necessary. In my opinion, it's not necessary. But Renee asked it each and every time before she would turn around and exit the courtroom. And each time I would respond, "Yes, Ms. Colbert, you may be excused."

Although Renee is no longer with us in person, I know her spirit remains here in the courtroom, watching over us right now. Knowing what she would ask me, if she were standing here, physically, before me, at this moment, I will conclude my remarks, by assuring her for one last time, "Yes, Ms. Colbert, you may be excused."

Having reflected on the remarkable legacy of our very dear friend, the Court will now recess, and we will do so in memory of our departed colleague, Renee Colbert.

(Thereupon, at 4:58 p.m., the Memorial Minutes were adjourned.)

Transcribed by: Christine B. Mumper, Official Court Reporter

MEMORIAL MINUTES — DAVID L. REAM

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL DIVISION

IN RE: MEMORIAL MINUTES OF DAVID L. REAM

RECORD OF MEMORIAL MINUTES IN THE ABOVE CAUSE,
BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALARIE COSTANZO, P.J., JOHN F. DiSALLE, J.,
MICHAEL J. LUCAS, J., TRACI L. McDONALD, J., JESSE PETTIT, J.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

P—R—O—C—E—E—D—I—N—G—S

(Thereupon, the Memorial Minutes for David Ream began at 4:04 p.m.)

PRESIDENT JUDGE COSTANZO: Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for joining us today as we come together to honor and remember the remarkable attorneys that we've lost. Their contributions to the legal community and to all of us have left a lasting legacy. Before we begin our reflections, I'm honored to introduce the President of the Washington County Bar Association, Deana Stephens.

MS. STEPHENS: Good afternoon. May it please the Court, and welcome to the Members of the Washington County Bar Association and colleagues, guests and friends of David L. Ream.

I will now ask Tom Vreeland, Chair of the Bar Association's Legal History and Biography Committee to introduce the speakers and any guests for today's Memorial Minutes.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Ms. Stephens. May it please the Court, ladies and gentlemen, Members of the Washington County Bar Association, this is the time and place that had been set for the Memorial Minutes for David Ream. I would like to recognize his wife, Mrs. Ream, and his daughter — oh, his niece, on the silver screen, Cindy Ream Phillips. You were elevated, but now you've been reduced to a niece. And for the first person to address this, I would like to introduce the speaker, who will be Cynthia Ream Phillips. Cindy.

MS. PHILLIPS: David Ream was my uncle. He was my father's youngest brother by 16 years, and in fact, he was actually closer in age to me than my dad was to him. And I can't remember a time growing up when he wasn't involved with, you know, our family, and I always thought of him like a big brother.

He was probably one of the most humble people I know, as well as one of the smartest people I know. He was a great listener, extremely bright, caring, and had an awesome sense of humor.

I could go to him and ask him about anything, whether it had to do with contracts, or buying a car, or a recipe, because he loved to cook, and he always gave 100 percent. He was always eager to help me work through things.

He loved to travel, and even when he passed away, well, during that day he and his wife were packing for a 30—day cruise out of Bali. That trip was to begin the next morning. They were going to fly out of Denver, where they had their second home. And I texted him that day, and I said, "Have a great time. Send me lots of pictures. I'm really excited for you guys."

The next morning, I got a call from his oldest daughter, Alison, that he had suffered a major heart attack and could not be revived. That was November. And over the last several months, I've been thinking about all of his accomplishments and all of his things he did. He had the for cooking that began in his 20's. He loved going to live theater.

He ran track in high school, and he wrestled in high school. And while he attended W&J, he also wrestled. And

he loved to fish. He fished everywhere, all over the world, from the islands, any island, to Alaska, and to Colorado, where as I mentioned before, he and his wife, Sybil, had their second home, Silverthorne.

Oh, and as his daughter, Alison, remembered, he also had the love for yellow legal pads. She said they were all over the house whether they were writing to-do lists, or recipes, or anything he was working on. And she wouldn't be surprised if there was one under their mattress.

So he graduated W&J in 1967, with a major in math and economics. He was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta, he was a FIJI there, then he went on to attain his MBA in '71 and his JD in '75 from Duquesne.

In fact, my first taste of law school and law was when he took me to class in Pittsburgh when I was a junior or senior in high school. In '71, he was offered an internship that led to a lifetime career for him. When the internship was over, he was offered a job at Gulf, but at that time, he was teaching economics at W&J and going to law school at night.

But Gulf didn't forget about him. When he passed the bar in 1975, he was hired and he was transferred to Houston, Texas, where he eventually became chief counsel for mergers and acquisitions and then again, they merged with Texaco, and he was thought of very highly among his peers.

In 2004, he took early retirement, and he and Sibyl moved to Washington run Sybil's family's furniture store, Sharps Furniture. And it was during this time that he became heavily involved with the First United Methodist Church here in Washington, where he served as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

He and Sybil also continued to participate in the 65th Infantry Division Association. Sybil's father had been a member of that 65th Infantry, and my uncle was the president for them for three years.

But most importantly, his family was the most important thing to him. And he and Sybil hosted many, many holiday gatherings at Silverthorne. His three children, Alison, Elizabeth, and William produced him seven grandsons, and finally, a granddaughter.

Even though he's no longer here, I'm sure he's up there trying to guide all of them and jotting down notes with his legal pads. Thank you.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Cindy. Are there any other members of the Bar Association that would like to address us with respect to the passing of our brother, David Ream? Not seeing any, members of the Court?

PRESIDENT JUDGE COSTANZO: Although I did not have the privilege of knowing David personally, it is clear that he left a lasting impact on everyone who did. The Court will now recess, and we will do so in memory of our departed colleague, David Ream.

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(Thereupon, at 4:10 p.m., the Memorial Minutes were concluded.)
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Transcribed by: Christine B. Mumper, Official Court Reporter

MEMORIAL MINUTES — ROBERT M. VUKAS

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL DIVISION

IN RE: MEMORIAL MINUTES OF ROBERT M. VUKAS
No. 2000—1882

RECORD OF MEMORIAL MINUTES IN THE ABOVE CAUSE,
BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALARIE COSTANZO, P. J. , JOHN F. DiSALLE, J. ,
MICHAEL J. LUCAS, J. , TRACI L. McDONALD, J. , JESSE PETTIT, J.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

P—R—O—C—E—E—D—I—N—G—S

(Thereupon, the Memorial Minutes for Robert M. Vukas began at 4:12 p.m.)

PRESIDENT JUDGE COSTANZO: We will now reconvene to honor and remember our next esteemed colleague, Bob Vukas.

Again, I am honored to recognize the President of the Washington County Bar Association, Deana Stephens.

MS. STEPHENS: Good afternoon.

May it please the Court, and welcome to the Members of the Washington County Bar Association, and colleagues, guests and friends of Robert M. Vukas.

I will now ask Tom Vreeland, Chair of the the Bar Association's Legal History and Biography Committee, to introduce the speakers and any guests for today's Memorial Minutes.

MR. VREELAND: May it please the Court, ladies and gentlemen, Members of the Washington County Bar Association, friends and relatives of Bob Vukas.

It is my privilege to present Karl Skrypak, who will provide the Memorial Minutes on behalf of his friend, Bob Vukas.

MR. SKRYPAK: Good afternoon, everyone, judges, attorneys, family members. We're gathered here today to celebrate the life of a dear friend, husband and attorney, Bob Vukas.

Bob was more than just a fellow attorney. He was a true friend, a constant presence, and a man who carried himself with kindness and goodness.

Robert McClelland Vukas of Mt. Lebanon, died suddenly on Tuesday, May 28, 2024. Bob was the loving and beloved husband of Agnes "Aggie" Pollice-Vukas, brother of Rebecca Vukas, of Chester, West Virginia. Bob is survived by many loving cousins and friends.

Bob was born in Newell, West Virginia on November 18, 1949, the son of the late George and Evelyn Grimm Vukas.

He was a Magnum Cum Laude graduate of Cornell University and a graduate of the West Virginia College of Law; however, I never let Bob forget that during our college years, Cornell just could not win a football game against my alma mater, Yale.

Bob practiced law for 48 years. He was a partner with the law firm of Frankovich & Anetakis for five years. He then joined the Consol Energy legal department, which I will elaborate upon later.

Bob enjoyed life. He loved to travel. He loved Italy. He loved to read. He loved Pittsburgh sports and his WVU Mountaineers. He loved music, the theater, museums, good food, but most and foremost, Bob loved dogs. He loved, in particular, Jack Russell terriers. He had several during the years that I knew him.

There are no words to describe the void that Bob's death has left in the life of his beloved Aggie.

For over 25 years, Bob and I worked side by side at Consol Energy's legal department. He directed litigation, while I handled mining operations, acquisitions, and divestitures. During that time, we became more than colleagues. We became family.

If we were both in town, we shared lunches, swapped stories, and leaned on each other during the tough days. But Bob wasn't just there at work. He was there in life. He and Aggie welcomed me and others into their circle, and that sense of friendship and belonging will never be forgotten.

Bob had a way of making ordinary days memorable. I'll never forget one of our trips to the National Coal Lawyers Conference, held at the Camelback Resort and Spa located in Scottsdale, Arizona. Of course, Bob and I were there to learn as much as possible about mining law. But there was the hot Arizona sun, a pool, a few too many margaritas, and an afternoon meeting session that we completely missed. Luckily, no one back at Consol in Pittsburgh was any the wiser.

Bob never let me live that down, and I can still hear his laugh ringing in my ears when he would bring it up. That was Bob. He knew how to enjoy life. He knew how to make you laugh while he was at it.

But beyond the laughter, what I will remember most about Bob is his steadiness. He was a man who showed up for his wife, Aggie, for his friends, and for his legal work. He was dependable, strong, and had a quiet way of letting you know you could count on him.

So today, while we grieve his passing, we also give thanks for the gift of knowing him. Bob's memory will live on, not just in our stories, but in the way he shaped our lives, with friendship, laughter and loyalty.

Rest in peace, my friend. You will be deeply missed, but never forgotten. Thank you.

MR. VREELAND: Thank you, Mr. Skrypak. Are any other members of the Washington County Bar who would like to address the assemblage this afternoon in the memory of Bob Vukas? May it please the Court.

JUDGE COSTANZO: Although I did not have the privilege of knowing Bob personally, it's clear from Mr. Skrypak's words and from things I've heard from other people that he did leave a lasting impact on everyone who did know him personally.

The Court will now recess, and we will do so in memory of our departed colleague, Bob Vukas.

(Thereupon, at 4:18 p.m., the Memorial Minutes were concluded.)

Transcribed by: Christine B. Mumper, Official Court Reporter

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