



LEGAL PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014

Berkeley College
12 East 41st Street
New York, NY

OUR SPEAKERS

BRIDGET G. BRENNAN

Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York

Bridget G. Brennan has been New York City's Special Narcotics Prosecutor since 1998. Appointed by New York City's five elected District Attorneys, Ms. Brennan is the first woman to hold that position. Ms. Brennan is in charge of an agency solely dedicated to the investigation and prosecution of narcotics offenses in New York City.

The Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor is widely recognized for its legal and technological expertise. It processes an average of 3,000 arrests a year, prosecutes national and international drug trafficking and money laundering organizations, and oversees large-scale operations targeting violent drug gangs in New York City neighborhoods. In addition, Special Narcotics runs programs that offer treatment instead of prison to hundreds of addicted defendants every year.

Ms. Brennan joined the office in 1992 and served as the second in command from 1995 to 1997. Prior to that, she was the Chief of the Special Investigations Bureau, overseeing some of the most significant narcotics investigations in the country.

Ms. Brennan has been a prosecutor since 1983 when she joined the New York County District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney. While there, she handled hundreds of misdemeanor and felony prosecutions, including homicides and sex crimes cases.

Before her legal career, she was a print, radio and television reporter in her native Wisconsin. Ms. Brennan graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School with a Juris Doctor degree. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of Wisconsin.



GLORIA J. BROWNE-MARSHALL

Gloria J. Browne-Marshall is an Associate Professor of Constitutional Law at John Jay College and a member of the Gender Studies faculty. Prior to academia, she was a Civil Rights attorney for the Southern Poverty Law Center, Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, and NAACP LDF.

Professor Browne-Marshall is a legal correspondent covering the U.S. Supreme Court, United Nations, and international as well as domestic legal issues related to women, children, minorities, and immigrants as well as criminal justice and civil rights. Gloria covered the 2012 Presidential campaign and President Obama's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway.

Gloria Browne-Marshall is Founder/Director of The Law and Policy Group, Inc., a 501(c)3 'think tank' for the community which publishes "The Report on the Status of Black Women and Girls(r)," the only ongoing report on the state of Black females in America.

Gloria is the author of "Race, Law, and American Society: 1607 to Present" and "The Constitution: Major Cases and Conflicts" (Pearson). Her forthcoming book is titled "She Took Justice." She is a legal correspondent covering the U.S. Supreme Court, United Nations, and international as well as domestic legal issues related to women, children, minorities, and immigrants as well as criminal justice and civil rights. Gloria covered the 2012 Presidential campaign and President Obama's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway.

Her weekly column on social justice issues is published in the Milwaukee Courier and syndicated in newspapers in New York City, Chicago, Dallas, Atlanta, and St. Louis, MO. She is an award-winning journalist and a member of the National Press Club. She has provided commentary for BBC America, CNN, ABC, NPR, C-Span as well as regular legal commentary for WVON (Chicago), WPFW (Washington, DC), and WBAI (NYC). Her radio program "Law of the Land" is broadcast on WBAI 99.5F (New York).

Gloria is the recipient of many awards including the NAACP Ethel Lawrence Trailblazer Award, Association of Black Women Attorney's Service award, the New York County Lawyers' Ida B. Wells award for her work on gender and race issues, the Woman of Excellence in Law award from Wiley College (Texas), and the Community Action Award from Black Star News. She speaks nationally and internationally about racial justice, multiculturalism, and the protection of vulnerable groups under Constitutional and International law.

She is a member of the U.S. Supreme Court bar, National Press Club, Pen American Center, the Supreme Court Historical Society, NAACP, and Women's City Club of New York City.



JEFFREY S. GREENER, ESQ.

Jeffrey Greener is a Partner in Rivkin Radler LLP's Trusts, Estates and Taxation Practice Group. Mr. Greener concentrates his practice on protecting, preserving and passing on wealth. This encompasses estate and business succession planning, elder law and asset protection. In addition to drafting wills, trusts, health care directives, shareholder, partnership and buy-sell agreements and durable powers of attorney, Mr. Greener also counsels clients on a broad range of legal and financial issues, such as Medicaid planning, retirement distributions, real property transfers, probate and estate administration.

Mr. Greener has extensive experience in the administration of decedents' estates, IRS audits and other tax controversies, business formations and dissolutions, and corporate, partnership and limited liability company creation and maintenance. Mr. Greener also organizes and represents charitable organizations.

A frequent lecturer on the topics of estate, retirement, and business planning, Mr. Greener serves as the Chairman of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. In April 2012, he was elected as Trustee of the Village of Kensington. Mr. Greener is AV Preeminent™ rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

SABRINA N. HANNAM, ESQ.

Sabrina N. Hannam earned her Juris Doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania Law School while obtaining a certificate in business and public policy in The Wharton Certificate Program at the Wharton School of Business. Hannam also had an opportunity to participate in the Harvard Law School Exchange Program while attending the University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall). Hannam earned her undergraduate degree with a minor in sociology and a Certificate in Dispute Resolution, graduating summa cum laude at John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York.

Hannam founded and is the Chief Managing Partner of the Law Office of Sabrina N. Hannam, LLC ("Hannam Law"), a New York-based firm. Hannam Law that applies a holistic approach to contract negotiation, financial management, and community involvement on the part of its sports and entertainment clients. Concurrently, Hannam Law implements an approach that emphasizes on Smooth Moves for Players in the Sports Industry, providing a sports based seminar that trains professional athletes to be intellectually prepared in their business dealings. In addition, Hannam Law is the founder and creator of sports meetings which showcases asset protection, and brings together professional athletes, agents, and other business managers to address, among other things,

adding economic value to professional athletes. The Hannam Law approach has consistently attracted clients of virtually every nature who depend on the highest standard of legal counsel, including, athletes, leagues, clubs, agencies, sponsors and certain other investor clients. Many of Hannam's clients are high net-worth individuals, entertainers and their spouses, but Hannam never mentions their names and actions. Hannam's policy and that of her Firm is one of discretion. Hannam respects the privacy of her clients above all else.

In her spare time, Hannam participates in a wide variety of charitable endeavors connecting sports and networking.

WILLIAM J. MULKEEN, J.D.

William J. Mulkeen is a Visiting Lecturer in Paralegals Studies, Criminal Justice and Social Studies at the Community College of Philadelphia. He was previously the Paralegal Program Director of Thomas Edison State College's online paralegal and nurse paralegal certificate programs offered in partnership with the New York Times Knowledge Network. At Thomas Edison he also mentors undergraduate and graduate level legal courses and has served on various committees including several terms as the President of the College's Academic Council. He has been active in legal education for over 30 years, serving on the Board of Directors and most recently as the President of the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE) where he founded the AAfPE Technology Task Force and the AAfPE Writing Task Force. He has been an active team member with various national paralegal accrediting agencies, including the Distance Education Training Commission (DETC), affiliated with the Council of Higher Education Accreditation Commission (CHEA) of the United States Department of Education. He has also served as a civilian and military paralegal program and course reviewer with the American Council on Education (ACE) in Washington, D.C. and with National PONSII in Albany, New York. He is currently a member of the Editorial Board of *Paralegal Today* and a member of the Advisory Board of the New York City Paralegal Association.

THOMAS GOLDMAN, J.D.

Thomas Goldman is a Professor Emeritus at Bucks County Community College. He is a graduate of Boston University and the Temple University School of Law. Professor Goldman has been actively involved in the private practice of law as well as in paralegal education with an emphasis in technology education for many years. He was the founding member of the Technology Task Force of the American Association for Education (AAfPE). He has lectured and consulted extensively with educational



institutions, law firms and corporations on legal technology issues. Professor Goldman is the author of numerous texts including *The Paralegal Professional; Technology in the Law Office; Civil Litigation: Process and Procedure; and Litigation: E-Discovery and Technology*.

W. ZEHAVA SCHECHTER, ESQ.

W. Zehava Schechter, Esq. concentrates her private practice in real estate law, estate planning, and estate administration, contracts, and business formation and dissolution. She is admitted to the Bar of New York (1989), Massachusetts (1989), and Israel (1993). Ms. Schechter graduated with a B.A. in Politics in 1983 from Brandeis University and received her J.D. in 1989 from Suffolk University Law School. She serves as the Chairperson and adjunct instructor in the Paralegal Studies Department at Bramson Ort College in New York City.

Throughout her 25 year career, Ms. Schechter has practiced in secular courts and Batei Din (Jewish religious courts). She began her career as a public defender with the New York Legal Aid Society, [Criminal Defense](#) Division. Her career has included law firm practice as well as sole practitioner status, both in New York and Israel. Ms. Schechter is an active member of a number of networking groups, including the West Hempstead Chamber of Commerce (where she serves as Recording Secretary), SCWEBC, and CNG/JBD, where she is a former director of the organization and the current director of the attorney sub-group.

Ms. Schechter's favorite quote is "You Miss 100% of the Shots You Don't Take" (attributed to Wayne Gretzky). In addition to her law practice, Ms. Schechter is a certified New York State Court Interpreter in the Hebrew Language, a certified New York State *Guardian Ad Litem*, an author, a frequent contributor of newspaper articles on legal issues of note, and the owner of a successful [custom window treatment](#) business, Your Shady Window Lady, LLC.

SOL Z. SOKEL, ESQ.

Sol Z. Sokel, Esq. is an accomplished trial attorney who was born and raised on Long Island. He went to local schools, including Queens College, where he earned honors and an accounting degree ('95), passed the CPA exam ('97), and then graduated from Hofstra University Law School ('99). Before he completed his second year of law school, Sol was recruited by a "Big Six" accounting firm to join their personal tax planning department. It soon became clear that the courtroom was more his passion and Sol joined the AV rated litigation law firm, Kelly, Rode & Kelly LLP. Sol has successfully litigated both plaintiff and defendant cases for over 12 years on behalf of and against some of the most well known

insurance companies and law firms in the country, as well as homeowners and landlords without insurance coverage, in the five boroughs of NYC, Long Island, Westchester, Orange, Rockland, and other counties. He regularly publishes legal articles and has lectured to both the general public and experienced lawyers. Additionally, on August 20, 2013, Sol first appeared as an invited guest lawyer on a cable TV program, Today's Verdict, and he currently lectures for a paralegal course at BramsonOrt College. Sol continues to live on Long Island with his wife, raising their four children.

ELLEN SCHWALB

Ellen Schwalb has applied her extensive experience and expertise as a freelance writer, author, and small business owner to her career as a Paralegal and Legal Office Manager for a law firm specializing in litigation, criminal and matrimonial matters. Ms. Schwalb has drafted thirty plus (30+) paged Sentencing Memorandums, which have resulted in significant reductions in non-guidelines sentences in federal (Southern District New York) criminal cases.

The New York City Lawyers Association has recognized Ms. Schwalb's pro bono activities. These activities have included Paralegal assistance through [CUNY Citizenship Now](#), service to prose clients through the Resolution Assistance Program of New York City Civil (Housing) Court, and as a New York City Bar Association volunteer on behalf of hurricane Sandy victims.

As a member of the New York City Paralegal Association, Ms. Schwalb initiated and helped to organize the NYCPA May 14, 2014 CLE Conference as her birthday gift to both Paralegal and legal professionals in the New York City area.

Ellen Schwalb is a Bachelor of Arts degree graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison, and the Queens College – CUNY A.B.A. approved accelerated Paralegal Certificate Program. She has been a workshop teacher and healing arts practitioner for over twenty years.