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Website: www.brooklynbar.org

Founded: 1872

Number of members: 2,000

Brief Association Vision: The Brooklyn Bar Association's (BBA) primary purpose is to promote professional competence among attorneys and increased respect for the legal system.

The BBA's Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) provides referrals in multiple practice areas. We advance leadership and promote opportunities for success through our networking opportunities and our sections and committees, which focus on improvements in the practice of law. We also provide continuing legal education.

Our belief that justice is achieved through the integrity, honor and courtesy of the members of the legal profession is the foundation of our association.

Brief History: Founded by the civic leaders of the City of Brooklyn (prior to its incorporation into New York City), the BBA has been housed in a Brooklyn Heights brownstone since 1918, which was significantly renovated in 1968 to include a first floor auditorium. The space holds a Westlaw / Internet law library center, client meeting rooms, the LRS call center, our growing CLE department and the BBA Volunteer Lawyers Project. All public spaces in the bar center have password-protected Wi-Fi service.

What is your association's favorite meeting location? The headquarters building, located within walking distance of all federal, state and New York City courts, has become the "second office" for many members, who attend lunchtime and evening committee and section meetings and the more than 40 live CLE courses offered in our auditorium and Board of Trustees room.

In part because of its location so close to the Brooklyn courts complex, it is the gathering place for the monthly meetings of the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association, the Kings County Criminal Bar Association, the Nathan R. Sobel - Kings County American Inn of Court, as well as special events hosted by The Cervantes Society, the Catholic Lawyers Guild of the Diocese of King's County and the twice-a-month Tuesdays with Talmud lunchtime class produced by the Brooklyn Brandeis Association

What is your association's most popular outing / social event? The BBA and its Foundation have a number of annual signature events, which bring together the entire Brooklyn legal community.

The largest event is the Foundation Annual Dinner, held in early December at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge Hotel. Each April, the Association hosts Judiciary Night in the bar center's auditorium, featuring the newly elected and appointed federal, state and city judiciary members, as well as the supervising and administrative judges and bar leaders. We have established a new tradition of hosting a Legislators Night in January. In early spring, we host the Hon. Theodore T. Jones, Jr. Memorial Golf Outing at the Colonia Country Club.

What is your association's most pressing concern regarding the legal profession? Despite the coordinated efforts of the courts and the organized bar, access to justice continues to be among the most pressing challenges to



Congratulating a president—The Brooklyn Bar Association gave the oath of office to its new president, Rebecca Rose Woodland, on June in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the Brooklyn Borough Hall. She receives congratulations, left to right, from State Bar President Glenn Lau-Kee, Past Brooklyn Bar President Steven D. Cohn, Hon. Lawrence Knipel and Brooklyn Bar First Vice President Hon. Frank R. Seddio.

the legal profession. To combat this problem, our ABA award-winning LRS has grown and operates a call center Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Brooklyn residents also can request an online consultation.

Aware of the enormous indigent population in our county, the BBA Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) provides legal representation throughout the borough. Housed in our bar center for the past 23 years, our members work as volunteers and the BBA provides in-kind and financial support.

Working in conjunction with local legal service providers and government entities, evening public education law classes, held in the bar center, are a core component of our programming. This program received the New York State Conference of Bar Leaders 2013 Bar Leaders Innovation Award.

What is your association's goal for next month? Next year? Building on

last year's work in public outreach, we will continue our public education programming. President Rebecca Rose Woodland, who was installed as the 99th president of our Association and Foundation in June, has met with elected officials about doing direct outreach to the community, educating the public about the LRS and VLP programs available to Brooklyn's residents.

At the Third Annual Hon. Theodore T. Jones, Jr. Memorial Golf Outing, we will present the First Annual Hon. Theodore T. Jones, Jr. Memorial Scholarship.

What are your association's most important current projects/ initiatives? As mentioned above, the public outreach to residents and their education on legal rights is the most important initiative and the main public interest goal of the organization.

The Bar Around The Corner is a project of the New York State Conference of Bar Leaders, www.nyscbl.org. ♦