



The  
**DISCIPLINARY BOARD**  
of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

August 2019  
Newsletter



## *From the Chair*

The annual attorney registration season is nearly at a close. Today, August 14, 2019, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania issued an Order to administratively suspend 1,286 attorneys who failed to pay the annual license fee. On September 13, 2019, the effective date of the Order, those attorneys who still have not paid the annual license fee will be administratively suspended. Although this order was issued approximately 30 days earlier than in previous years, the number of attorneys on the list was comparable in size to recent years. We are grateful that more than 98% of Pennsylvania attorneys completed the annual registration requirement within the allotted timeframe. Thank you!



The Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners (PABLE) asked that we include information in this newsletter about an important survey being conducted by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE). The results of this survey will be utilized by NCBE and PABLE to design the future of the bar exam. Participation by Pennsylvania attorneys is strongly encouraged. For more information, please review the “Around the Court” section below.

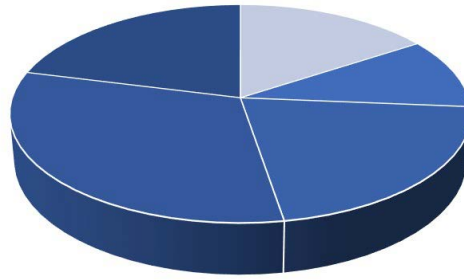
Andrew J. Trevelise, Esquire  
Board Chair

## *Social Media*

Like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) for more news and information.

## *Discipline Imposed*

July 2019



- Informal Admonition - 3
- Private Reprimand - 0
- Public Reprimand - 0
- Public Censure - 0
- Disability Inactive Status - 2
- Temporary Suspension - 4
- Suspension - 6
- Disbarment - 4

**Temporary Suspension**

[Ivan Stewart DeVoren](#)  
[John M. Kerr](#)  
[Lawrence Jay Weinstein](#)  
[Donald B. Moreman](#)

**Disbarment**

[David Leonard Quatrella](#)  
[Steven James Lynch](#)  
[John Shasanmi](#)  
[Scott Lawrence Kramer](#)

**Suspension**

[Jeff Lee Lewin](#)  
[Amanda Iannuzzelli](#)  
[Lokanath Mohapatra](#)  
[Andrea D. Goodrich](#)  
[Douglas Andrew Grannan](#)  
[Mario Sausville-Macias](#)

## *Articles of Interest*

**Board of Law Examiners Allows Limited Licensure for Military Spouses**

The Supreme Court has adopted a new rule in the Pennsylvania Bar Admission Rules, allowing spouses of active duty members of the military forces to gain limited admission to practice in Pennsylvania while the spouse is stationed in Pennsylvania. New [Pa. Bar Admission Rule 304](#) was adopted January 29, 2019, effective July 29, 2019. It was published at [49 Pa.B. 705](#) (February 16, 2019).

Applicants who are admitted to any state, commonwealth, territory or the District of Columbia may submit to the Board of Law Examiners (BLE) evidence that they have earned a Bachelor of Laws or Juris Doctor degree from a law school, proof of their good standing in another bar, a copy of the spouse’s military orders requiring presence in Pennsylvania, and a fee. The BLE will then issue a certificate recommending admission. The applicant may then file a motion with the Prothonotary of the Supreme Court on a form to be provided by the BLE, upon which the Prothonotary will enter the applicant on the docket of specially admitted persons.

A person with limited licensure under this rule may practice on the same basis as an active member of the Pennsylvania bar. However, such attorneys must also be employed and supervised by a Pennsylvania-licensed attorney who is in good standing and who is currently engaged in the practice of law in Pennsylvania. Limited licensure terminates when any of the eligibility conditions set out in the rule no longer apply, subject to a six-month grace period, or when the limited licensee obtains general admission to the Pennsylvania bar.

“Military services” for the purpose of this rule include:

- the United States Army;

- the United States Marine Corps;
- the United States Navy;
- the United States Air Force;
- the United States Coast Guard;
- the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps;
- the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps; and
- any other entity designated as part of the United States Uniformed Services by the United States Department of Defense or the United States Department of Homeland Security.

---

### **Step Away from the Smartphone: Sleep Deprivation Threatens Lawyer Well-Being**

It is well-documented that law is a stressful profession. A recent study found that 28% of lawyers have symptoms of depression at some level.

Simple exhaustion is a major contributing factor to depression and loss of productivity among lawyers. An article at law.com, "[Constantly On Call, Lawyers Risk Exhaustion](#)" [free subscription required], explores the effect of overwork and loss of sleep on lawyers.

The article notes that while high billable hour requirements contribute to overwork and burnout for lawyers, they are not the sole cause. It is part of the culture in much of the legal profession to be always on call, always thinking about and engaged with the practice even during time off the clock. Many lawyers take their smartphones everywhere they go, even to bed, and develop habits of constantly checking emails and reengaging with the practice even during time off. Loss of sleep time is often the first result of this pattern.

Although many lawyers think this practice represents diligence and commitment, it can actually be counterproductive. Exhaustion leads to anger, depression, and reduced efficiency. A lawyer who could meet his or her billing targets in an 11-hour day instead needs a 13-hour day to accomplish the same result. Exhaustion and overwork often contribute to dependence on substances such as alcohol or sleep medications, which further contribute to a decline in the individual's ability to work efficiently.

The experts quoted in the article recommend that law firms must allow lawyers to completely disconnect from work during hours out of the office, rather than remaining on call. They also stress the importance of allowing breaks and rest time during office hours, to assure that time spent is used productively.

The parting advice: step away from the smart phone at bedtime.

---

### **Howe Dewey React? Lawyer Named Cheatham Charged with Cheating**

Listeners to NPR's program [Car Talk](#) will remember the firm's legal counsel [Dewey, Cheatham, and Howe](#), chief counsel Hugh Louis Dewey,<sup>1</sup> along with their [fine staff](#). In fact, naming a law firm Dewey, Cheatham, and Howe is something of a stock phrase with a [long comedic history](#).

Such a hoary trope is probably a joke heard too often by any lawyer named Dewey, Cheatham, or Howe. However, it was not enough of a deterrent for a [Georgia lawyer](#) named Cheatham to keep out of trouble for, well, cheating.

Anthony Cheatham has entered a guilty plea to charges of theft after converting \$140,000 in real estate proceeds at a time when he was already suspended from the practice of law on an unrelated issue. He was [disbarred](#) by the Supreme Court of Georgia in October 2018. Cheatham has made restitution and should soon be released after a year in custody.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>Not to be confused with Huey Lewis of the News.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Not to be confused with, you know, the news.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Poor Huey has not been in the news for some time. His lawsuit against Ray Parker over “Ghostbusters” didn’t even make the ABA’s [article on rock’n’roll litigation](#) we linked to last month.

<sup>4</sup>That’s a fine Howe Dewey do.

## *Disciplinary Board News*

### **Disciplinary Board Offers Instructional Videos on Reinstatement**

The Disciplinary Board offers a new service to assist lawyers seeking reinstatement from discipline, administrative suspension, inactive, or retired status. Videos are now available on the Board’s YouTube channel providing guidance on procedure and requirements for applying for reinstatement. The eight-minute video walks applicants through the rules regarding reinstatement.

The full video is [here](#). You can jump to the section of interest with the following links:

- [From Administrative Suspension, Inactive, or Retired Status Three Years or Less](#)
- [From Administrative Suspension, Inactive, or Retired Status More Than Three Years](#)
- [From Discipline – Suspended for One Year or Less](#)
- [From Discipline – Inactive Status \(Pa.R.D.E. 301\), Suspension of More Than One Year, or Disbarment](#)

## *Vacancies*

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania is aided by select boards, committees, commissions and councils consisting of more than 180 appointed volunteers - most, but not all, are lawyers and judges.

The panels have a wide range of responsibilities and functions. Some make recommendations to the Court for amendments, revisions or simplification of court procedural rules. Others regulate the practice of law, oversee continuing legal education for lawyers and administer funds to assist individuals unable to pay for legal services. Still others advise on keeping the courts free of bias and discrimination and on long-range planning.

### **There are currently two vacancies on these panels:**

- [Minor Court Rules Committee](#) - Applicants should be knowledgeable about the Pennsylvania Rules of Conduct, Office Standards and Civil Procedure for magisterial district judges and courts, and experienced in magisterial district court practice.
- [Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts \(IOLTA\) Board](#) - Applicants should be familiar with legal practice and procedure in Pennsylvania federal or state courts. Experience with financial institution practices is also beneficial.

## *Attorney Registration*

Annual attorney registration is coming to a close – about a month earlier than usual! The registration process is available through the [UJS Portal](#) and opens each May to approximately 76,000 attorneys. As always, the deadline for registration is July 1. This year, 83.9% of attorneys paid by this deadline. With the 2019-2020 registration year, a new timeline commenced shortening the period between late payment penalty assessments. As of July 16, the last day to register without penalty, 96.7% of attorneys (almost 74,000!) had completed their registration. Prior to the second late fee assessment, 98.1% of attorneys had completed their annual registration requirement on or before August 1.

After the assessment of the second late payment penalty, the remaining 1,286 attorneys were certified to the Supreme Court for Administrative Suspension. A Supreme Court Order was issued August 14, 2019 and will be effective on September 13, 2019. During the 30 day period in which the Order is pending, attorneys are able to complete their outstanding obligation and therefore be removed from the list of attorneys to be Administratively Suspended.

If you are a Pennsylvania attorney who has yet to complete the annual registration requirement, the last day to do so is Thursday, September 12, 2019 through the [UJS Portal](#).

## *Around the Court*



**2019 TESTING TASK FORCE  
PRACTICE ANALYSIS SURVEY**  
National Conference of Bar Examiners

### **PA Board of Law Examiners Requests Survey Participation**

The [Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners \(PABLE\)](#) develops and administers the bar exam in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania exam includes six essays and a performance test that PABLE creates and the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), which the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) writes. NCBE also generates essay and performance test questions that Pennsylvania does not use on its exam.

NCBE is in the midst of a three-year study to consider the content and format of the MBE as well as its essay and performance test components. PABLE will study the findings of NCBE and use them to examine its own exam. Phase 2 of the study is a survey of newly admitted lawyers to learn what knowledge, skills, abilities, other characteristics, and technology these lawyers use in the performance of their job.

PABLE strongly urges new lawyers to participate in this survey, as your participation would provide critical information on Pennsylvania practice and will be used to develop the next generation of the bar exam.

The survey is now available and will remain open until the end of September. To learn more about the survey and to participate, please visit <https://www.testingtaskforce.org/2019PASurvey>.



**SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

## Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers Trust Account Board

### **Additional Banks Offer IOLTA Platinum Leader Bank Option to Attorneys**

The IOLTA Board is pleased to announce that several community banks have recently elected to join the Pennsylvania IOLTA Board's [Platinum Leader Bank](#) program.

As Platinum Leader Banks have made a commitment to serve the legal community and voluntarily provide a premium yield on IOLTA accounts, a law firm's business decision to move their IOLTA account to a Platinum Leader Bank can have a significant impact on the funding available for civil legal aid. For example, as of June 30, 2019, a law firm's IOLTA account with a Platinum Leader Bank will earn a rate of 1.68% as compared to other institutions that provide a rate on IOLTA accounts closer to .39%. Over twelve months, that could be the difference between generating \$840 rather than \$195 on an IOLTA account with a \$50,000 average daily balance.

Until relatively recently, the majority of Platinum Leader Banks were primarily located in Central Pennsylvania, but with the expansion of Fulton Bank into the Philadelphia region as well as Tioga Franklin Savings Bank's decision to join the program, attorneys in Eastern Pennsylvania now have greater access to Platinum Leader Banks. Similarly, in Western Pennsylvania, Brentwood Bank and Enterprise Bank have also recently joined the Platinum Leader Bank program. For a complete list of Platinum Leader Banks and for instructions on opening a new IOLTA account, please visit [www.paiolta.org](http://www.paiolta.org), or contact the IOLTA Board at (717) 238-2001.

## *Resources*

[FAQs - For the Public](#)

[Annual Report](#)

[Recent Discipline](#)

[FAQs - For Attorneys](#)

[Rules](#)

[Discipline Statistics](#)

---

Copyright (C) 2019 The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. All rights reserved.

Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania,  
601 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 5600, PO Box 62625, Harrisburg, PA 17106

[Unsubscribe](#) <<Email Address>> from this list.

[Forward](#) this email

[Update your profile](#)