(Originally published April 2009)

Dear Friends,

This issue of the GLC e-news highlights our exciting upcoming programs. We look forward to seeing you.

- Anderson Breakfast on Investigatory Commissions
- Symposium on Public Authorities Law Reforms
- Alumni in Government Reception featuring Sen. John L. Sampson ’91
- Presentation on Governor Charles Evans Hughes
- Current publications and new information on religious land uses, climate change, ethics code for wind companies, POA changes, residency restrictions for sex offenders, and more

Best regards,
Patricia E. Salkin
Director

Upcoming Events

The 2009 Warren M. Anderson Legislative Breakfast Seminar Series

Held monthly from February through May, each Warren M. Anderson
Breakfast Seminar features a panel of experts who address legal aspects of a policy issue pending before the New York State Legislature.

The 2009 Anderson series concludes with:

May 19: "Investigating the Investigatory Agencies—How Many Investigatory Commissions Are Enough?" featuring panelists John Poklemba, Esq., Poklemba & Hobbs, L.L.C., Former State Director of Criminal Justice and Commissioner, Division of Criminal Justice Services; Joseph Spinelli, Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, Daylight Forensic and Advisory LLC, former New York State Inspector General; and Richard Rifkin, Esq., Special Counsel, New York State Bar Association, former Special Counsel to Governors Paterson and Spitzer; and Karl Sleight, Harris Beach PLLC, former Executive Director of the New York State Ethics Commission, as moderator.

The seminar will be held from 8-9 a.m. in the Assembly Parlor Room on the 3rd Floor of the Capitol. The program is free of charge, and complimentary Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits are available for attorneys who attend.

Call 445-3287 or email tblan@albanylaw.edu to reserve a seat.

Our April Anderson program examined The Role of the Public Service Workforce in a Financial Crisis and featured Ross Hanna, Director of Contract Administration, Civil Service Employees Association; Hon. Gary Johnson, Director, Governor's Office of Employee Relations; Alan Lubin, Executive Vice President, New York State United Teachers; and Elizabeth Lynam, Deputy Research Director, Citizens Budget Commission.
This year's Anderson Seminar Series has been made possible through the generous support of our sponsors: The Business Council of New York State, Inc.; CSEA, Inc.; The Energy Association of New York State; Girvin & Ferlazzo, PC; Greenberg Traurig, LLP; Hinman Straub P.C.; and Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP.

**To Find Out More:** [Click here](#) to read more about The Effects of the Fiscal Crisis on Local Governments in New York, in a paper by Kenneth W. Bond, Esq. of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P., who spoke at the March 24, 2009 Anderson Seminar, along with Paul D. Moore, former Project Director of the GLC Shared Municipal Services Incentives Program Project.

**Coming Soon:** Check the [GLC website](#) in the coming weeks for digital recordings of our February, March, and April Anderson programs, on *Tax Policy in a Time of Fiscal Crisis, The Effects of the Fiscal Crisis on Local Governments in New York,* and *The Role of the Public Service Workforce in a Financial Crisis,* made possible with the assistance of New York State Assemblyman Kevin A. Cahill ’80.

**Public Authorities Law Reforms to Be Discussed**
The Proposed Legislation to Amend the Public Authorities Law is the subject of an upcoming symposium at Albany Law School. Stakeholders will discuss the public authority reform legislation introduced in both the Assembly and Senate intended to build upon the procedural reforms implemented by the Public Authorities Accountability Act of 2005 (PAAA). Click here to read more.

Confirmed speakers to date include Luke Bierman, General Counsel, Office of the State Comptroller and New York State Assemblyman Richard L. Brodsky, with Scott Fein, Esq., Partner, Whiteman Osterman & Hanna, LLP, as moderator.

The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 in The Dean Alexander Moot Courtroom at Albany Law School.

Please RSVP to Trish Blanco at tblan@albanylaw.edu.

Senator John L. Sampson ‘91 to be Special Guest at Alumni in Government Reception

Senator John L. Sampson ‘91 will be our special guest at Albany Law School’s 10th Annual Alumni in Government Reception on Tuesday, May 19th from 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at The State Room, 142 State Street, Albany.

Senator John Sampson ‘91 was elected to the New
York State Senate in 1996. Among his many assignments, Senator Sampson chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, is Acting Chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, and is a member of the Administrative Regulations Review Commission. The reception is co-sponsored by Albany Law School’s Office of Alumni Affairs, Alumni in Government Group, and Government Law Center.

The cost of the reception is $20 per person. R.S.V.P. to the Office of Alumni Affairs by Tuesday, May 12, at (518)445-3220, alumni@albanylaw.edu or www.albanylaw.edu/alumni.

**Charles Evan Hughes: The Accidental Governor as Reformer**

While he served as New York State governor, United States Secretary of State, and as the only person who served two different terms on the United States Supreme Court (including a decade as Chief Justice), Charles Evans Hughes seems to be little remembered these days. Hughes was elected governor at the height of the Progressive Era, and his political views were shaped by that moment. Before serving as governor, Hughes had not worked at all in government or politics, and he may have been New York’s most apolitical governor. He also served at a time when New York State constituted 10% of the population of the nation, and what happened in Albany not only did not stay in Albany but affected the rest of the country. Although he served as governor 100 years ago, much of what happened during his two terms in office remains relevant today.

Bennett Liebman, Executive Director of the Government Law Center, will be speaking to the New York State Bar Association’s Committee on Attorneys in Public Service to review the governorship of Charles Evans Hughes on June 10, 2009 in the Great Hall at the New York State Bar Center.

For more information or to register, contact Maria Kroth at mkroth@nysba.org
GLC Participates in Live Teleconference on Community Benefits Agreements

Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) will be examined by Associate Dean Patricia Salkin and GLC Staff Attorney Amy Lavine at a live teleconference on May 12, 2009. CBAs are a growing nationwide movement of private contracts between a developer and a community coalition that serve to increase public participation in the planning process, promote smart growth and environmental justice goals, and bring neighborhoods, local governments, and private interests together to make development projects more sustainable, transparent and accountable.

For more information or to register for the teleconference, click here.

Recent Events

Center Partners with Two Other Nationally Recognized Institutions to Deliver Unique Land Use Training Program

On April 3, 2009, the Land Use Law Center of Pace University, the Cornell University Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI), and Albany Law School's Government Law Center entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) pledging cooperation to increase the capacity of local governments and citizens to address critical land use, environmental, economic development, and other issues of concern to municipalities.

Click here to view the full press release.
DHCR Commissioner Speaks on Keeping the Affordable Housing Market Healthy in New York

Revitalizing Our Communities – Attracting Investors to Produce High
Quality, Affordable Housing in Upstate New York was the subject of NYS Division of Housing & Community Renewal Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen’s talk delivered on at Albany Law School on March 31, 2009. Commissioner VanAmerongen gave an informative presentation on the Governor’s budget and housing, the federal stimulus package and what it means for affordable housing, and the Upstate Equity Fund – a fund to attract investors who will invest in affordable housing as a mean of replacing the drop in revenues supporting the low-income housing tax credit stream. Although the economic crisis has jeopardized the ability of affordable housing developers to secure financing, particularly upstate, Commissioner VanAmerongen views the Equity Fund model, which has been successful in other states to make it easier and more attractive to invest in affordable housing, as an effective means of keeping the affordable housing market healthy in New York.

GLC is Blogging on the Times Union!
Patricia Salkin recently began providing commentary for the new "Capital Region Voices" Blog for the Times Union. Her initial discussion, “Capital Region Needs A Climate Action Plan,” was posted on April 2, 2009.

To view the commentary, click here.

Recent Publications from the Government Law Center Staff

“Seeing The Light through RLUIPA’s Haze”
Patricia Salkin contributed the conclusion chapter for a new book about the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act published by the ABA. Her Chapter is entitled, "Seeing The Light Through RLUIPA's Haze."

Last month Patricia Salkin presented a paper entitled "New York Climate Change Report Card: Improvement Needed for More Effective Leadership and Overall Coordination with Local Government" at the University of Colorado School of Law. The paper will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Colorado Law Review and the draft can be accessed [here](#).


*Municipal Lawyer, Vol. 23, No. 13, Winter 2009*

At the end of last year, Attorney General Andrew Cuomo unveiled a voluntary code of ethics for wind farm developers. An article by Patricia Salkin discussing the code and municipal ethics was published in the recent issue of the Municipal Lawyer. [Click here](#) to read this article.

“Changes for Powers of Attorney in New York”

*NYSBA Journal, March/April 2009*

The article, outlining the significant reforms to the use of powers of attorney in New York, was written by Rose Mary Bailly, Esq., Special
Consultant to the GLC and Executive Director of the New York State Law Revision Commission, and Barbara S. Hancock, Counsel to the Commission.

Click here to read this article.

“Residency Restrictions for Convicted Sex Offenders: A Popular Approach on Questionable Footing”
New York Zoning Law and Practice Report
January/February 2009, Vol. 9, No. 4
by Dwight H. Merriam and Patricia Salkin

Click here to view this article.

To keep up-to-date on all upcoming events hosted or co-sponsored by the Government Law Center, check in with us at our webpage: www.albanylaw.edu/glc. Feel free to contact us at any time by calling (518) 445-2329 or emailing tblan@albanylaw.edu. Thanks, as always, to our readers!