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Government Law Center News

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- "New York Local Governments Respond to Climate Change and Energy Efficiency"
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**Upcoming Events**

*2010 Warren M. Anderson Legislative Breakfast Program*

**Topics – Same Sex Marriage, Health Care Reform, Ethics, and Other States’ Responses to Recession**

This year’s Warren M. Anderson Legislative Seminar Series will open on **February 23rd** with a discussion on "**Coping with the Recession: What Have the Other States Done?**" featuring **Donald J. Boyd, Ph.D.**, Senior Fellow, Rockefeller Institute of Government and **David S. Liebschutz, Esq.**, Director of Strategic Planning & Analysis, Center for Governmental Research.

The breakfast on **March 23rd** will focus on same sex marriage, featuring **Shannon Minter, Esq.**, Legal Director, National Center for Lesbian Rights and **Bruce Gyory, Esq.**, Hinman Straub Advisors, with **Professor Stephen Clark** of Albany Law School serving as moderator.

An examination of healthcare reform and the states will follow on **April 20th**; and a program on **May 18th** exploring ethics will conclude the
season. The seminars will feature a panel of experts who discuss the legal aspects of each issue, all currently pending before the New York State Legislature. The programs will be held from 8-9 a.m. in the Assembly Parlor on the 3rd Floor of the New York State Capitol.

Sponsors of The 2010 Anderson Series, to date, are:

- Brown McMahon & Weinraub, LLC
- The Business Council of New York State, Inc.
- CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP
- Hinman Straub P.C.
- New York State Association of Counties
- Patricia Lynch Associates, Inc.
- Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP

Complimentary CLE credit is available. There is no charge to attend the program, but seating is limited. To register, please contact Trish Blanco at tblan@albanylaw.edu or (518)445-3287. Be sure to include your name, company, phone number, email, and number of attendees.

Click here to view videos of last year's Anderson Seminars and other related materials.

**ALS Alum To Speak About Prosecuting the Marshall Case and Elder Abuse Law**

As the Spring 2009 newsletter reported, on January 27, 2009 Governor David Paterson signed Chapter 6440 of the laws of 2008 which provided major reforms in the use of powers of attorney. The Government Law Center's Aging Law & Policy Program has been involved with this issue for more than fifteen years. Because powers of attorney are
easy to use and simple to create, they are often tools for exploiting vulnerable adults. The headlines in New York City papers recently focused on the indictment of Anthony Marshall, the son of Brooke Astor, one the City's most famous philanthropist and socialites, on several criminal charges, including using a power of attorney to transfer millions of his mother's money to himself. In December 2009, Mr. Marshall was convicted on several counts, including first degree larceny. Elizabeth (Liz) Loewy, Albany Law School '84, head of the Elder Abuse Unit for the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, and co-counsel on the State v Anthony Marshall, will be at Albany Law School on February 23rd to speak about her experience prosecuting the Marshall case, as well as elder abuse law at a general talk at 4 p.m. which is open to the public.

Click here or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 518-445-3220 or alumni@albanylaw.edu to learn more.

Albany Law Review State Constitutional Commentary Symposium on Wrongful Convictions

The Fourth Annual Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke State Constitutional Commentary Symposium, entitled “Wrongful Convictions: Understanding and Addressing Criminal Injustice,” will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2010, at Albany Law School.

Chief Judge of the State of New York Jonathan Lippman will lead a discussion on the origins of and modern solutions to wrongful convictions. This timely event follows Chief Judge Lippman’s recent appointment of a permanent task force on wrongful convictions at the New York State Court of Appeals.

Chief Judge Lippman will be joined by a distinguished group of speakers, including:
Hon. Cyrus Vance, Jr., District Attorney of New York County
James Acker, Distinguished Teaching Professor, School of Criminal
Justice, University at Albany, State University of New York
Amy Bach, Author, Ordinary Injustice: How America Holds Courts
Saul Kassin, Distinguished Professor of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Massachusetts Professor of Psychology, Williams College
Stephen Saloom, Policy Director, Innocence Project

For more information, contact Jillian Kasow, Executive Editor for State Constitutional Commentary, Albany Law Review, at 518-445-3312 or jkasow@albanylaw.edu.

Copenhagen Report Back/Next Steps for Labor and the Environment
A Community Forum on the Climate Crisis, Government Policy and Green Jobs

More than 45,000 people, including the heads of over 100 countries, gathered in Copenhagen in December to help plan the next steps in the global response to the climate crisis. No binding agreement came out of the meeting, although progress was made toward the creation of a global climate strategy. Was the meeting a success? A failure? What was the impact of the US Senate’s inability or unwillingness to address carbon reduction legislation? What happened to preliminary agreements to address deforestation, just transition for impacted workers, and the historic north/south divide?

Join us on Thursday, April 1st from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Albany Law School to discuss next steps on the road to a meaningful response to the climate crisis. What can we do in New York to impact the next global gathering, scheduled for December 2010 in Mexico City? Our speakers will include environmental and labor leaders who attended the Copenhagen meeting.

Co-sponsored by New York State Apollo Alliance and the Government Law Center
For more information, contact: Adam Hilliard – Workforce Development Institute (NYS Apollo Alliance) @ 518-272-3500.

Crawford Lecture to Address Municipal Corruption Investigations

Ross H. Garber, a Partner in the firm of Shipman & Goodwin, will present the Government Law Center’s Edwin L. Crawford Lecture on Municipal Law on April 15, 2009 at Albany Law School. Mr. Garber’s presentation, entitled “Municipal Corruption Investigations,” will include a discussion of several high profile public corruption cases and the lessons they provide to municipal officials and lawyers.

The Edwin L. Crawford Memorial Lecture on Municipal Law was established in 1996 to honor the memory of Edwin L. Crawford, former executive director of the New York State Association of Counties. The program strives to educate and promote dialog on important and timely issues affecting local governments. Presentations by several former Crawford speakers can be accessed at http://www.governmentlaw.org/crawford.php.

The Lecture is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please call the Government Law Center at (518) 445-3287.

GLC to Co-host Conference on Executive Records with New York State Archives

The Government Law Center, in conjunction with the New York State Archives Partnership Trust and the New York State Archives, is planning a major conference on Executive Records. The program will be held at Albany Law School on Thursday, May 20th and Friday, May 21st.
The program will bring together historians, political figures, elected officials, academics, and government leaders, in an effort to make sense of and plan for future governmental policy on preservation and access to executive records.

The program will focus on the issues such as Developing Public Policy and Executive Records, Transparency, Executive Records and the Media, Executive Records as a Legacy, Access to Executive Records in the Digital Age, Disclosure of Executive Records, and the Implementation of Executive Records Legislation.

Historian Richard Norton Smith, the Scholar-in-Residence of History and Public Policy Expertise at George Mason University, will deliver one of the keynote addresses on the topic of the Legacy of an Executive. Mr. Smith is the author of numerous books including Thomas E. Dewey and His Times, which was a finalist for the 1983 Pulitzer Prize.

Confirmed speakers and participants for the conference include Rex Smith, Editor Albany Times Union, Robert Ward, Deputy Director, Rockefeller Institute of Government, Larry Hackman, former New York State Archivist, Paul Finkelman, President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School and Senior Fellow at the Government Law Center, Elizabeth Benjamin, New York Daily News, Gerald Benjamin, Distinguished Teaching Professor, SUNY New Paltz, Melodie Mayberry Stewart, Ph.D. New York State Chief Information Officer and Director of the Office For Technology, Peter Quinn, author and former speechwriter for Governors Carey and Cuomo, Michael Whiteman, former counsel to Governors Rockefeller and Wilson, Robert Freeman, Executive Director, New York State Committee on Open Government, Melanie Leslie, Professor of Law, Cardozo Law School, Gary Stern General Counsel at the National Archives, and Lise Bang-Jensen, senior policy analyst at the Manhattan Institute’s Empire Center for New York State Policy.

**Ethical Considerations in Nonprofit Governance Subject of**
June Program

Together with the Estate Planning Council of Eastern New York and The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, the Government Law Center will host “Ethical Considerations in Nonprofit Governance” on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 from 8:30 - 11:30am. This program is designed to explore the role of practitioners in nonprofit governance and the ethical issues confronted when working in this capacity. Michael Cooney, Esq., Nixon Peabody and Ron Guzior, CPA, BST Financial and Management Consultants are scheduled to lead this program. 2.5 CLE credits and credits for certified public accountants and certified financial planners are available. This is part of the Center’s Klepper Non-Profit initiative. For registration and location information please contact eguglin@cfgcr.org, or call CFGCR at 518-446-9638.

Summer in Government 2010


Recent News

Public Authority Reform Research Results in Online Clearinghouse and Publication

The Government Law Center recently launched the nationwide Public Authorities Information Clearinghouse (PAIC), designed to help
government officials, public interest groups, and others navigate through the thousands of pages of documents that pertain to the operation and governance of public authority.

Currently, the Public Authorities Information Clearinghouse indexes hundreds of books, academic publications, pieces of legislation, court cases, reports, videos and news articles. The Web site, which includes a state-by-state index of content, will continue to expand with additional content related to public authorities across the country. The site also contains information on accessing the programs of the Government Law Center's Public Authorities Project, including training and research conducted by the Center. Current short research papers address the following topics: Ethics and the Workforce, Financial Disclosure and Screening Potential Public Authorities Conflicts, Diversity on the Boards of State Public Authorities, Selection on Public Authority Board Members, and Public Authority Audit Committee Little Pocket Handbook.

Click here to read the press release.

International Outreach

The GLC continues its effort to collaborate with researchers across the globe.

Russia
On February 11, 2010 the Government Law Center hosted more than a dozen Russian Mayors visiting with a delegation from the Council of Local Authorities in Russia (CLAR). CLAR was formed in 2006 to, among other things, monitor local government reform in the Russian Federation, assist with improving the local government system in Russia, involve the municipal community into the process of making key decisions concerning the development of local government, and organize training for local government officials. GLC Director Patricia Salkin provided an overview of how the Government Law Center and Albany Law School assists municipalities in New York.

Recent Publications

"Public Authority Reform"
"Can You Hear Me Up There? Giving Voice to Local Communities Imperative for Achieving Sustainability"

*Patricia E. Salkin*


[Click here](#) to read this article.

"New York Local Governments Respond to Climate Change and Energy Efficiency"

*Patricia E. Salkin*

The New York Environmental Lawyer

Fall 2009, Vol. 29, No. 4

[Click here](#) to view this article.

"Renewable Energy And Land Use Regulation [Part 1]"

*Patricia E. Salkin*
"Practically Grounded: Convergence of Land Use Pedagogy and Best Practices"

John R. Nolan and Patricia E. Salkin
Forthcoming in The Journal of Legal Education, Vol. 60 (Fall 2010)

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/gle. Feel free to contact us at any time by calling (518) 445-2329 or emailing tblan@albanylaw.edu. Thanks, as always, to our readers!