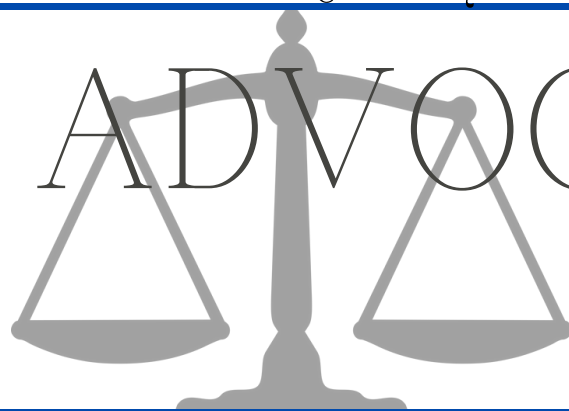


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The Dutchess County Bar Association

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# THE ADVOCATE



## *Winter 2024*



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[www.dutchesscountybar.org](http://www.dutchesscountybar.org)

# President's Message



The Holidays are among us, as is the end of the year. It is a time to reflect, and a time to reenergize for the coming year. It is also a time to appreciate one another, our work and our families. It was not too long ago that we were celebrating Thanksgiving and the Holidays isolated from our families and friends.

That said, 2023 has been a productive year for the DCBA. We held fourteen CLE programs on a variety of important topics, including two in-person programs, which we hadn't done since the pandemic struck in 2020. To that end, we are pleased to report that the NYS CLE Board approved the DCBA application for permanent accreditation to offer virtual CLE programs. Indeed, CLE virtual programs have been quite popular allowing more of our members, and non-members from surrounding counties, to take advantage of our CLE programs.

In addition, our Lawyer Referral Service is busier than ever, with our office responding to over one thousand calls this year from those in our community in need of an attorney. Moreover, in January 2023 the DCBA received a grant from the City of Poughkeepsie to start a program offering legal assistance to those facing eviction. Since April 26th an attorney has been in City Court offering guidance to the litigants with nearly one hundred folks utilizing the program to date. To that end, we are looking forward to continuing this successful program, and perhaps expanding it to other courts next year.

In this issue, you will find more information about our early 2024 events and CLE programs. Our first lunch meeting of the new year will be held on January 18th at Locust Grove in Poughkeepsie. We will have an ethics CLE on January 25, 2024. That said, please be sure to check your emails and our website, which is often updated with additional information.

In closing, I am grateful for the continued support of all the DCBA members. Whether it is attending a lunch or CLE, covering a housing court calendar or being part of our Lawyer Referral Service, we couldn't continue the work of the DCBA without all of you.

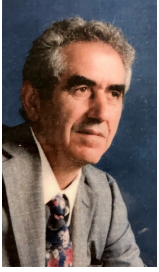
I wish you all a Happy & Healthy Holiday Season and New Year! I look forward to seeing you at an event in 2024.

*Craig*  
Craig Burgess, Esq.  
DCBA President

# In Memoriam

## Julius S. Boccia

by Hon. Peter M. Forman (Ret)



Julius S. Boccia, a native of Beacon and a member of the Dutchess County Bar Association for close to 60 years, passed away after a short illness on February 2, 2023. He joyfully served the legal profession in a variety of roles during his career.

He graduated from St. John's Law School in 1954, passed the bar exam, was admitted to the Bar and immediately began military service in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was stationed in Germany with the 2nd Armored Infantry Division (Hell on Wheels) from 1954-55. Upon returning to civilian life, Julius practiced law with Canio Salese and others until obtaining an appointment as an Assistant District Attorney by District Attorney Raymond Baratta, where he served from 1959-63. He always recalled his days as an ADA with much pleasure, saying it was the best job he ever had, and remained life-long friends with Judge Baratta.

Upon leaving the DA's office, Julius entered private practice in the Beacon law office, Phillips, Heaney and Schofield in 1963, where he remained until his retirement. In that capacity, he enjoyed the general practice of law, specializing in real estate, estate practice and the representation of lending institutions. All attorneys who had the good fortune of dealing with Julius came away with the appreciation of dealing with a true gentleman whose word was his bond. He had a smile on his face at all times, never taking life too seriously. Julius was a mainstay at Dutchess County Bar Association meetings, even in his retirement!

A life-long registered Republican, Julius ran for elective office once, in 1967. He lost a race for a seat in the Dutchess County Legislature by 2 votes! In 1992, the Beacon City Council appointed Julius as Asst. City Court Judge and he ascended to City Court Judge when City Judge Anthony Pagones retired. He served in that position until 2000.

Julius served the Beacon and Southern Dutchess County community in a variety of charitable organizations over the years: the Knights of Columbus, St. Rocco's Society, Elks Club and the Southern Dutchess Exchange Club. He is survived by his wife, Marian, two step-children, as well as a brother and a sister.

As a personal note, Julius was my father, Tom Forman's best friend. They were business partners in Sylvan Lake Beach Park and 33 Henry Street business offices for close to 30 years. Growing up, Uncle Julie was truly part of our family. Until his marriage, he ate breakfast with us every Christmas morning. He was the reason I became a lawyer (although both he and Canio Salese tried to talk me out of it). I always felt he was the ultimate role model of how to conduct oneself both personally and professionally. He will be missed by all of us who knew and loved him.

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IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT

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# **Join the DCBA Referral Service**

Our Lawyer Referral Service receives over 1,000 calls each year, and is the most frequently visited page on our website.

Members can list in as many categories as they wish, and no fee is due back to the DCBA if you accept a case.

If you would to join the service, please complete the application, which can be found on our website, or reach out to Janna at the DCBA office for more information.

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## **Mandatory Online Registration is now in effect**

Beginning December 1, 2023 all New York Attorneys will be required to register and renew their registration using the Office of Court Administration's online system.

More information on this change can be found on our website:

<https://dutchesscountybar.org/wp-content/uploads/doc00357320231031151756.pdf>





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# Upcoming DCBA Events

**January Luncheon**

**January 18, 2024**

12:30 p.m.

Locust Grove

Watch your email for more information  
about this event!

**CLE - War Stories from the Dark Side &  
How To Avoid Becoming One of Them**

January 25, 2024

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Presented by Forrest Strauss, Esq.

1 Ethics Credit

\$45 for members, \$65 for non members

This program will be presented virtually via Zoom. The link and  
materials will be sent the day before the program.

RSVP here: <https://dutchesscountybar.org/event/cle-war-stories-from-the-dark-side-how-to-avoid-becoming-one-of-them/>

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