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WINTER | 2015

Legalese HCLA



THE HELLENIC CANADIAN LAWYERS'
ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

President's Message

As we start 2015, I am excited to present the first edition of this year's Legalese.

Our members will be pleased to know that the Board has been hard at work organizing a full schedule of events for the first half of 2015.

In February we will host two events. The first is our annual Student Wine & Cheese which will be held on February 19th and will be open to all members. We hope that students take advantage of the reading week break to attend. The second is our signature social and fundraising event of the year, the Professionals' Gala, which has been resurrected and will be held on February 28th. The Gala, is an event sponsored and organized jointly by the Hellenic doctors', dentists' and lawyers' associations. For many years, it was one of the best-attended and most popular of all of our annual events. Proceeds of the Gala will be used to support the HCLA's Justice Karakatsanis Student Scholarships. Please bring your partners and your friends and enjoy an evening of wonderful food, copious drink from the open bar, excellent entertainment and genuine fun.

These events speak directly to what we believe is the heart of the HCLA's mission - to create, foster and build a vibrant organization of likeminded professionals from across Canada with a keen interest in the profession and community.

On an administrative note, the HCLA has responded to the comments that we've heard from many of you when discuss-

2014/2015 HCLA Board

President - Angela Nikolakakos
Vice-President - John Georgakopoulos
Treasurer - Ted Evangelidis
Secretary - Jeanie Theoharis
Membership Director - Aliko Yorgiadis
Community Relations Director - Elena Balkos
Communications Director - Elias Lyberogiannis
Social Director - Stephanie Voudouris
Student Director - Kosta Kalogiros

ing the HCLA's membership year. For simplicity, we changed the membership year to coincide with the calendar year (Jan. to Dec.). You will have received and will be receiving requests to support HCLA's initiatives by renewing your membership. Your membership fees will permit the HCLA to continue: organizing and hosting CPDs and socials, awarding student scholarships, staffing the Greek community legal clinic, providing support for law students as they enter this challenging and rewarding profession and creating a forum for lawyers, students, judges and graduates of accredited law schools across Canada who are of Hellenic descent to create a community. The HCLA cannot grow and cannot thrive without your participation and your support.

Enjoy this edition!



Call for Mentors and Mentees - Mentoring

Established a number of years ago, the HCLA's Mentorship Program brings together our students and new lawyers with more senior legal practitioners. The Program runs on a calendar year basis and the 2015 Program is just underway.

At this time, the HCLA is asking any members who would be interested in participating in the Program, either as mentees or mentors, to submit an application form (found at www.hcla.ca/membership) by sending an email to info@hcla.ca. Applications are accepted year-round and we encourage any member that believes they may benefit from, or would like to contribute to, the Program to apply.

Roundtable of Diversity Associations Initiatives

As you may know, the HCLA is part of the Roundtable of Diversity Associations (RODA), an organization of 16 diversity seeking associations and organizations within the legal community. In the last few months, RODA and its organizations have been actively responding to various diversity concerns within the profession such as the issue of the ban on religious attire during licensing exams, the legal challenges concerning the TWU law school, and judicial appointments and candidates for benchers.

We would like to highlight two particular initiatives. One initiative is the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC) reaching out to RODA to comment on the Law Society's Developing Strategies for Change: Addressing Challenges Faced by Racialized Licensees consultation paper. In early 2015, events will be hosted by LSUC to reveal their findings of the consultation paper and provide an opportunity for feedback. The program will qualify for 1 hour professionalism credit. Interested licensees can find more information on the LSUC website (<http://www.lsuc.on.ca/racialized-licensees/>) and written submissions are welcome from all by March 1, 2015.

The second initiative is that RODA was asked by the Toronto Lawyers Association to participate in a task force on paralegals regarding concerns of the profession about the existing scope and education of paralegals.

More information about RODA can be found at: <http://www.tlaonline.ca/?page=RODA>.

Picture: Representatives from nine associations at the formal ceremony that established RODA. At the top right is then HCLA President Nikiforos Iatrou and former Attorney General of Ontario, Chris Bentley.



Our social calendar continues this winter...

On the heels of what was a busy Fall 2014 social calendar, the HCLA Board is proud to present two of its mainstay events during the Winter of 2015.: (1) The Professionals Gala; and (2) The Student Wine & Cheese.

Details for both events are below. If you are interested in attending the events, please **RSVP** to **Stephanie Voudouris** at **social.director@hcla.ca**.

1. The Professionals' Gala: February 28

Back by popular demand, the HCLA is once again joining the Hippocrates Hellenic Medical Association and the Asclepius Dental Association to present the 2015 Professionals' Gala.

The Gala, which brings together doctors, dentists, and lawyers of Hellenic descent, has been popular for a number of years. This year is expected to be no different.

The Gala will be held on Saturday February 28, 2015, at Spirale Banquet Hall in Toronto. Please purchase your tickets in advance by logging in to your member account at www.hcla.ca or by following the links on the 'Events' page on the website. Tickets are selling fast so please purchase yours today.



You are invited to...

The Professionals' Gala

When: Saturday Feb. 28, 2015

Time: 6:30 PM - 1:00 AM

Where: Spirale Banquet Hall
888 Don Mills Road
Toronto, Ontario

Tickets: \$100 (Dinner - Open Bar)

Please RSVP to
social.director@hcla.ca

2. The Student Wine & Cheese: February 19

The HCLA's Student Wine and Cheese has been an annual event for many years and this year it will be once again held at the offices of Conduit Law Professional Corporation on Thursday February 19, 2014 in Toronto.

The Wine and Cheese has traditionally been an event where we engage our student and junior members and provide them with an opportunity to network with and learn from senior practitioners. With the growth in our student and mentor-

ship programs, the Wine and Cheese has been popular in recent years and we expect that it will be well attended again this year. The HCLA encourages all members, including our senior members to attend.

If you are interested in attending the Wine and Cheese, please RSVP to: Stephanie Voudouris at:

social.director@hcla.ca.

Wine & Cheese

When: Thursday February 19, 2015

Time: 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Where: Conduit Law
322 King Street W. Suite 402
Toronto, Ontario

Tickets: Complimentary

Please RSVP to
social.director@hcla.ca

Recap: Fall 2014 HCLA Events

Last fall, the HCLA proudly presented its busiest social calendar ever, which included four successful events. These events coupled our annual President's Dinner and Christmas Cheer with two informative CPD sessions put on with peer associations, the Hellenic Canadian Board of Trade (HCBT) and the Canadian Italian Advocates Organization (CIAO).

The President's Dinner was hosted on October 29 at the Chef's House in downtown Toronto. At the Dinner, the HCLA awarded the Justice Andromache Karakatsanis Student Scholarships to two very deserving student members, Victoria Asikis and Nicholas Bourolias. Victoria and Nicholas both attend the Faculty of Law at Windsor University and are active within the HCLA community.

The CPD events took place on October 22 and November 12 respectively. The first, hosted at WeirFoulds LLP in Toronto together with the HCBT, was an insightful session that provided members with Greek Real Estate, Tax, and Estates information. The second, hosted at the Columbus Centre in Toronto together with CIAO, brought together a group of prominent practitioners to discuss the ins and outs of Financial Statements. The group included HCLA and CIAO members Sophie Doukas of Grant Thornton LLP, Ted Evangelidis of Pallett Valo LLP, Francesco Gucciado of Aird & Berlis LLP, Gus Karantzoulis of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, and Domenic Marino of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Both sessions were accredited CPD sessions by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

The final social event of 2014 took place on December 3 at the Rosewater Supper Club in Toronto. This event, the Christmas Cheer, continued the HCLA's tradition of hosting a complimentary event for members around the holidays to provide an opportunity to get together, to network, to celebrate the festive time of year, and thank our membership for its participation and dedication to the HCLA. Again, the Christmas Cheer proved to be an enjoyable evening for all that attended.



Pictures

Top: HCLA members enjoying the 2014 President's Dinner.

Middle: Staff at the Chef's House preparing meals for the 2014 President's Dinner.

Bottom: Attendees and presenters at the CIAO-HCLA CPD session including HCLA members Gus Karantzoulis, Ted Evangelidis, and Angela Nikolakakos

Changes Announced to the HCLA Membership Year

Recently, all current and recent HCLA members should have received a letter outlining changes to the membership year. In case you missed it, that letter is reproduced below. Renewing your membership helps the HCLA serve you through events, CPDs, the Mentorship Program, the Karakatsanis Student Scholarships, and other initiatives. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at info@hcla.ca.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 9, 2015

President
Angela Nikolakakos

Vice-President
John Georgakopoulos

Treasurer
Ted Evangelidis

Secretary
Jeanie Theoharis

Membership Director
Aliko Yorgiadis

Community Relations Director
Elena Balkos

Communications Director
Elias Lyberogiannis

Social Director
Stephanie Voudouris

Student Director
Kosta Kalogiros

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

RE: Membership Renewal Request - Hellenic Canadian Lawyers' Association

We've heard you! We've listened to our members and changed our membership year to coincide with the calendar year (January – December). As such, I'm contacting you to request that you support the good work that the HCLA does for lawyers, students, judges and graduates of accredited law schools across Canada who are of Hellenic descent by renewing your **HCLA Membership for the 2015 membership year (January 2015 - December 2015)**.ⁱ

Renewing your annual HCLA Membership is easy and fast. Please take a moment to renew by selecting one of the following two options:

Option 1:

To pay online, log into your HCLA account at <http://www.hcla.ca/members/> and click on the "Account Info" link to pay your membership fee.

If you do not have an HCLA account, you can create one at <http://www.hcla.ca/register.aspx>. If you have forgotten your login or password please email us at info@hcla.ca.

Option 2:

If you do not wish to pay online, please complete the attached form and mail a cheque with the completed form to:

HELLENIC CANADIAN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION

c/o Ted Evangelidis

Pallett Valo LLP

77 City Centre Drive, West Tower, Suite 300 Toronto, Ontario,
L5B 1M5

For the many benefits of HCLA membership please see <http://www.hcla.ca/membership/>.

Yours truly,
Angela Nikolakakos
President

ⁱ If you renewed your membership after September 2014, your membership will remain valid until Dec. 31, 2015.

Member Profile

Member Profile: Peter Mantas

Peter is the General Partner at Logos LP, pha. which is an investment partnership that aims to empower individuals to achieve their financial goals. Peter was previously in the tax, capital markets and financial services group at McCarthy Tetrault LLP.

Prior to his role at McCarthy Tetrault, Peter was in the Resources Sector at the Export Development Bank of Canada and has held numerous research positions at Statistics Canada and other government departments. Peter has been navigating the capital markets since age 13, has previous experience as a proprietary trader, and his professional interests include matters related to global corporate strategy and the consumer non-cyclical industry. Peter is able to converse in French and Greek and is also a contributing writer for Seeking Al-

Peter is a graduate of McGill University's Faculty of Law and a Member of the Law Society of Upper Canada. Prior to studying law he obtained an Honours Baccalaureate in Commerce, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Ottawa, Telfer School of Management, and was a recipient of numerous awards of excellence.

Peter's career pursuits demonstrate that finishing law school does not mean one has to practise law in the traditional way. He is a living example that lawyers today can hone their skills and make their career what they want.

Peter may be contacted at:

pmantas@logoslp.com



Notices, Needs, and Nea

If you would like to post in this section and are a member of the HCLA, please email info@hcla.ca.

HCLA Legal Clinic. The HCLA Legal Clinic at the Greek Community of Toronto is available to provide pro-bono services and legal information to individuals. Please contact Maria at the Greek Community of Toronto (30 Thorncliffe Park Drive, 30 Winona Dr, Toronto, ON, M4H 1H8, (416) 425-2485) for more information.

WSIAT Vacancies. Our friends at the WSIAT would like to make HCLA members aware of vacancies at the Tribunal. Those interested are encouraged to apply and monitor the WSIAT website as additional postings are expected throughout the year.



Order in Council Vacancies/ Postes annoncés (nominations par décret)
– WSIAT/TASPAAT - Toronto

The [Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal \(WSIAT\)](#) is inviting applications for [part-time Vice-Chair, Order in Council](#) positions. Interested applicants must apply through Ontario's [Public Appointments Secretariat](#). WSIAT's screening process includes a written test.



Headlines from Greece

In this section, we provide a sampling of recent news articles dealing with a variety of law related happenings in Greece courtesy of ekathimerini.com. For more up-to-date news, please visit ekathimerini.com.

European court hears appeal by Greece, Hellas Gold

The European Court on Wednesday began hearing an appeal by Greece and the Hellas Gold mining company against a 2011 decision that ordered the firm to pay 15.34 million euros to public coffers as it was deemed to have received illegal state aid.

The European Commission brought the original case four years ago and the court ruled that the 11-million-euro sale of the gold mine in Cassandra, northern Greece, to Hellenic Gold in September 2013 took place at a price lower than the actual market value.

Coincidentally, Greece's environmental inspectors also imposed a 8,100-euro fine on Hellas Gold Wednesday for felling trees in Skouries forest without the proper paperwork.

ekathimerini.com (Jan. 28, 2015)



Greece to cancel gas utility sale, opposes Canadian gold mine

BY Angeliki Koutantou

Greece's new left-wing government will cancel plans to sell the state natural gas utility and is firmly opposed to a Canadian gold mine that is among the biggest foreign investment projects in the country, the energy minister told Reuters on Friday.

The comments by Panagiotis Lafazanis further reinforces early signs that the government is sticking to campaign pledges that have chilled investment and unnerved financial markets.

The gold mine operated by Vancouver-based Eldorado Gold in northern Greece was the flagship project of the last government's foreign investment drive and considered a test case that would reveal whether Greece could protect foreign investors despite local opposition.

"We are absolutely against it and we will examine our next moves on it," Lafazanis, the 63-year-old former Communist told Reuters at his new ministerial office, declining to say if the government would try to block the project from going ahead.

The new minister was even more categorical on gas utility DEPA, saying the planned sale of a 65 percent stake would be



scrapped. "In no way will we privatise gas utility DEPA and sell it to anyone, no matter who the interested party is," Lafazanis said.

But he struck a more moderate tone on the 400-million-euro (\$452 million) sale of Greek natural gas grid operator DESFA to Azerbaijan's state oil firm SOCAR, a deal agreed in 2013.

He said the government would act on the project only after the European Commission, which is investigating whether the deal violates competition rules, makes its decision later this year.

"We will wait for the EU Competition Commission's decision and then we will decide our own moves," he said.

[Reuters]

ekathimerini.com (Jan. 30, 2015)



Headlines from Greece - Continued

Two more remanded over prison extortion, murder racket

Another two suspected members of a huge extortion racket centered around convicted crime boss Panayiotis Vlastos were remanded in custody on Wednesday after defending themselves before an investigating magistrate.

One of the two is a lawyer who had represented Vlastos at one of his many criminal trials in 2012 but who claimed to have had no further dealings with the 42-year-old convict. The new detentions bring to four the number of suspects in custody after two people – a foreign national and the mother of a former fellow inmate of Vlastos – were remanded on Tuesday.

Several more suspected members of the racket, which is accused of a string of homicides and bomb attacks, have been given conditional release, including a police officer who admitted in his testimony on Wednesday that Vlastos sent a cell phone to his home.

A huge case file on the activities of the racket, which Vlastos is alleged to have run from inside Attica's Korydallos Prison with the help of two other convicts, points to ties between the criminals and domestic terrorist groups.

The racket is also accused of planning contract killings against political and judicial targets but also against former accomplices who fell out of favor with Vlastos.



In a related development, the Greek Police is said to have lodged a request for information from its Italian counterparts, via Interpol, after Vlastos's cousin allegedly claimed that the convict lost 4 million euros of the ransom collected for the abduction of shipowner Pericles Panagopoulos in an attempt to launder the cash with the help of members of a trial-fixing ring in Italy.

Vlastos's cousin is in a police witness protection program.

ekathimerini.com (Jan. 21, 2015)

Journalists cleared of charges filed by Kasidiaris

Investigative journalist Dimitris Psarras and his editor at Efimerida ton Syntakton newspaper, Nikolas Voulelis, were on Tuesday cleared of charges of slander and obtaining personal data without consent.

The charges had been brought by far-right Golden Dawn MP Ilias Kasidiaris following the publication in December 2013 of a video where the deputy is shown supervising the abuse of an unidentified detainee by police officers. Kasidiaris, who is currently in jail pending trial for involvement in a criminal gang, had claimed that those filmed had been acting out a 1980s movie.

Judges said the defendants had engaged in strong criticism of a public figure and their actions were within the limits of free expression. The prosecutor had asked the court to convict the defendants.

Constitutional lawyer Nikos Alivizatos and Athens Mayor

Giorgos Kaminis, a professor of constitutional law, spoke in defense of Psarras, who has written extensively on Golden Dawn, and Voulelis.

ekathimerini.com (Jan. 13, 2014)



Mission Statement

The HCLA is a national non-profit organization founded in 1990. Its primary purpose is to maintain a network of lawyers, judges, and law students of Hellenic descent. In addition to creating professional opportunities, this network serves as a platform for members to educate one another on issues that are of common interest, as well as to educate the Hellenic Canadian community at large on relevant legal issues. When necessary, the HCLA is ready, willing, and able to advocate on behalf of its membership and the greater Hellenic Canadian community.

Membership Renewals

If you have not renewed your membership for 2015, please take a few minutes to complete your membership renewal form, or to renew online at www.hcla.ca. Please ensure to either opt in or out of our Lawyer Referral Network, which can make your contact information accessible to the public seeking a lawyer in your field of practice. For further information please contact us via our website or at info@hcla.ca. A renewal fee of \$100 applies for regular members and \$50 for student members.

About the Legalese

The Legalese is published several times a year by the HCLA Board. We welcome your contributions and feedback. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact our Communications Director at elias.lyberogiannis@hcla.ca or submit your comments through our website at www.hcla.ca/contactus.

The Legalese is sent and is available electronically at www.hcla.ca. From time-to-time, the HCLA sends electronic messages enclosing information that the HCLA feels is relevant and of interest to the recipient such as the Legalese. In connection with Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), the HCLA has either requested and received recipient consent, or sends materials to recent HCLA members, whose consent is deemed to have been received. If a recipient no longer wants to receive such electronic information and communications from the HCLA, please send us an email at info@hcla.ca.



LEGALESE:
THE HELLENIC CANADIAN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

CONTACT US

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