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Mt. Lebanon Attorney Bryan Neft Takes Over as President of Allegheny County Bar Foundation

Neft Becomes Third Person to be President of Both ACBA and ACBF

PITTSBURGH – Mt. Lebanon attorney Bryan S. Neft officially became president of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation (ACBF) on July 1. Neft previously served as President of the Allegheny County Bar Association in 2018-19, making him just the third person to serve as President of both organizations.

“Doing my part to help the legal profession and the community in general has always been important to me, which is why I’ve dedicated a lot of time and energy to both the ACBF and the ACBA throughout my career,” Neft said. “The ACBF truly is the ‘heart of the legal community,’ performing so much good work to help people in need. Taking on this role is both an honor and a challenge.”

Neft is a commercial litigator with downtown Pittsburgh law firm Spilman Thomas & Battle. His two-year term will end on June 30, 2027.

The ACBF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the charitable affiliate of the ACBA. The ACBF’s mission is “to be a driving force in promoting justice for all and to improve the community through public service law-related programs as the charitable arm of the Allegheny County Bar Association. To fulfill this mission, the Foundation raises, manages, and distributes funds, encourages and assists lawyers to provide pro bono legal services, and develops and supports public information initiatives.”

The ACBF oversees many key initiatives, including Attorneys Against Hunger, which has raised more than \$2.6 million for Allegheny County food banks since its inception in 1993, and the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Center, which allows volunteer attorneys to help those with low incomes meet their legal needs. The ACBF also manages 16 named funds, several legal aid grants and scholarships, and numerous other initiatives designed to increase equal access to justice. For more on the work of the ACBF, visit www.ACBF.org

Encouraging more Pittsburgh-area attorneys to engage in pro bono work and increasing the ACBF’s outreach into the community are among Neft’s primary goals as ACBF President. He also hopes to educate area attorneys and the public on the resources and programs available through the ACBF.

“Thanks to the generosity of our volunteers and donors, the ACBF helps many people who could not otherwise afford an attorney, those battling hunger, law students, and even lawyers facing their own personal challenges,” Neft said. “My goal is to not only help the organization keep up that good work, but to take that generosity even further. Raising awareness of the ACBF will allow us to further fulfill our mission.”

About Bryan Neft

Neft attributes his desire to practice law and dedication to the profession to his mother, Rhoda Neft, a fellow ACBA member who still practices today as General Counsel with G2 Reverse Logistics.

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“When I was a teenager, my mother entered law school after being a home economics teacher for many years. That wasn’t the typical career path many women took in those days, and that made quite an impression on me,” Neft said. “Not only did it show me what a person can do when fueled by determination and character, it also showed me the importance of her chosen profession, I got to see, first-hand, the process of becoming a lawyer. That, coupled with watching her determination and character, made me want to follow in her footsteps and become a lawyer myself.”

A Fox Chapel native, Neft earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1986 and his juris doctorate from the Boston University School of Law in 1989. Early in his legal career, Neft practiced litigation and general practice in Pittsburgh, West Virginia and Ohio. Neft then spent 13 years at Pittsburgh firm Pietragallo, Gordon, Alfano, Bosick and Raspanti before joining Spilman Thomas & Battle in 2017.

His practice involves healthcare, product liability, antitrust issues, banking and lender regulatory matters, business torts, competition and trade secrets, consumer protection, contractual disputes, environmental law, ERISA, fair debt collection, false advertising, insurance coverage, medical malpractice, shareholder and corporate control disputes, accountants’ liability, unfair insurance practices and bad faith.

Since the beginning of his legal career, Neft has been extensively involved in numerous facets of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. In addition to his term as ACBA President, he is a former ACBA Treasurer and Chair of the ACBA Bench-Bar Conference Committee. He is a current or former member of the ACBA Corporate, Banking and Business Law Section; Civil Litigation Section; Federal Court Section; Homer S. Brown Division; LGBTQ+ Rights Committee; and the Task Force on Gender Equality, among numerous other roles.

Neft has twice served on the ACBF Board of Trustees and is former ACBF Treasurer. Additionally, he chaired the Attorneys Against Hunger Campaign for more than a decade. Neft also is an ACBF Visionary Fellow, a recognition reserved for attorneys who have shown a commitment to excellence in charitable, community, professional and/or public service activities.

In addition to his legal work, Neft has been involved in an array of community and charitable endeavors. He previously served on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, the Board of Trustees for Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh, and the Board of Trustees of the Beth El Congregation of the South Hills.

Neft lives in Mt. Lebanon with his wife, Julie Cohen. They have three adult children: Simon, Justin, and Zoe.

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About the ACBF

Incorporated in 1980, the Allegheny County Bar Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is the heart of Pittsburgh’s Legal Community. The charitable affiliate of the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Foundation operates a variety of charitable, educational, pro bono and public service activities.