

News in Brief

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by focusing on the unique needs of individual communities," said state prosecutor Richard Andrews. "We encourage residents, business owners, and civic leaders to attend these community meetings, share their concerns and ideas, and help shape the direction of the community prosecution program in their neighborhoods."

Each meeting is free and open to the public. Residents with questions are encouraged to contact the office of the attorney general at 302-577-8288 or e-mail AttorneyGeneral@state.de.us.

Aaron Serves on Council of Lance Armstrong Foundation

Candice Toll Aaron, a partner in the litigation department of Saul Ewing resident in its Wilmington office, has been chosen to serve on the newly created Livestrong Young Leaders Council for the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

Aaron is one of 15 professionals under 40 from across the country chosen for the council, which will help the foundation broaden its reach and success in the fight against cancer. Aaron, who is 34, can serve for three consecutive two-year terms.

"Everyone who has been touched by cancer can learn by sharing information, sharing experiences and looking out for one another," said Aaron, who was appointed

vice chairwoman for the council at its first meeting earlier this year in Austin, Texas. "I am thrilled to be a part of this diverse organization and excited about contributing to the success of this amazing foundation."

Phil Hills, executive vice president for development at the foundation, said its goal is "to bring together up-and-coming young professionals who have a passion for supporting the Livestrong mission and will be the next generation of leaders for the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

Aaron earned her B.A. from the University of Michigan in 1996 and her law degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law in 1999. She is co-chairwoman of the firm's corporate governance practice group and its diversity committee.

Habbart Sits on DSBA Alternative Billing Panel

Ellisa Opstbaum Habbart, a founding partner with law firm The Delaware Counsel Group, participated in a Delaware State Bar Association panel last month discussing alternative billing arrangements.

Habbart has provided transactional counseling on national and international matters to in-house and private-practice attorneys and senior level management on Delaware law issues for 20 years.

Fellow participants on the panel included Tom Sager, general counsel of DuPont, Rosemary Goodier, the vice

president for Wealth Advisory Services at Wilmington Trust, and Michael Rettig, the deputy general counsel for Hercules.

Presented by the corporate counsel section of the DSBA, the panel addressed the increasing demand for alternative billing arrangements, what alternative billing practices have worked and the responses by outside law firms and in-house counsel. For more information about the DSBA and the corporate counsel section, visit www.dsba.org.

Just Legal Expands Services

Just Legal Inc. announced last month that it has expanded its services. The company, formerly known as Exclusively Legal Inc., has hired attorney Marion R. Newbold as director of attorney placement.

Newbold is a former dean of students and dean of admissions and career development at the Widener University School of Law. She is a graduate of the University of Rochester and Widener Law who has worked in the private sector and has extensive experience in law school recruiting and placement. She will handle contract and permanent placement of lawyers.

The company also announced it has hired Nicole I. Drescher as director of marketing. Drescher has been in sales and marketing for 20 years. She was responsible for managing, training and evaluating the skills of more than 200 employees throughout her career. •

Conference

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which is always a major part of the institute's program."

In fact, this year's luncheon and keynote address on the first day of the conference was delivered by William Poole, former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

"He spoke about the financial crisis and offered his thoughts or proposals on how to deal with certain aspects of the crisis," McBride said.

Plenty of the sessions directly reflected this focus. For example, Steele served on a panel titled "Shareholder Activism, Board Governance and the Role of State Law in the Age of Financial Uncertainty," which discussed the latest strategies employed by shareholder activists and whether

the financial meltdown has weakened or strengthened the activists' cases.

The panel also discussed federal legislation related to the bank bailout, including restrictions on executive compensation and whether they are likely to move beyond financial institutions to apply to other public companies.

More broadly, the panel examined whether federal interference will override the role of state law in corporate governance matters.

"The chief justice has always been a vigorous supporter of and defender of Delaware law and of the importance of preserving for the state important functions in the corporate law area and other areas," McBride said. "That view is shared, at a minimum, by everyone at the Tulane conference."

McBride said he didn't hear any views to the contrary, and that he doesn't think there is any serious effort to completely usurp Delaware corporate law.

That being said, McBride noted that recent federal action related to executive compensation may intrude into areas traditionally left to state corporate law, and that there is a "constant interaction" between Securities and Exchange Commission proxy rules and state corporate law.

Any meaty changes are likely to be narrowly targeted, however.

"I think at the federal level there is a concern that financial institutions, both those that have been regulated in past and those that may be regulated in future, need to have better risk management programs in place," McBride said.

This essentially would be an extension of the regulatory function the federal government has always had, and wouldn't encroach upon state law.

"I haven't heard of any effort to create federal regulations with respect to anything but financial institutions," McBride added. •