

Progress in Print Issue 36 - Winter 2021

Letter from the Chairs

Happy International Women's Day! Over the last year, we've all managed our best to press on through historic and unprecedented times. We've faced individual challenges and losses, collective struggles, and unexpected stressors. The most important lesson we have all learned in 2020 is that no matter how big a challenge may cross our paths, we are all better suited to face that challenge as a united front. We see the start of 2021 as an opportunity to come together to offer each other support, share opportunities for growth, and fill our shared need for camaraderie as we forge ahead and face 2021 together in the "new normal." With this in mind, we are relaunching our WLI newsletter and activities in earnest.

We have an engaging and thought-provoking WLI calendar this year. For our February luncheon we hosted guest speakers Pamela Mellor, Associate General Agent at Certified Financial Services LLC and Rebecca Novin-Cannon, JD, CExp Registered Representative and Financial Advisor at Novin Cannon Financial Group LLC and Certified Financial Services LLC, who spoke with us on the importance of prioritizing "The Order of Operations" when creating a personal financial plan. As we look ahead to our March event, we are excited to host Sheila Henderson, Chief Intellectual Property Officer, and Olivia Dhordain, Deputy Chief Intellectual Property Officer for Richemont.

This quarter's newsletter is filled with several news items that reflect the achievements of our fellow WLI attorneys. We've also included links to articles that may be of interest to you, as well as information on upcoming events. A note for our new hires (and as a reminder to those who know us well) - WLI is dedicated to the strategic retention and advancement of women attorneys in the firm. We are committed to creating a culture that inspires women attorneys to develop as leaders, both in their profession and the world at large.

It's never too late to suggest an event for the WLI programming schedule. Please do not hesitate to let us know whether there are professionals or particular topics that you would be interested in learning more about. We invite you to share articles of interest, professional accomplishments, events, and programming that would serve as a benefit to the WLI Group. New ideas are always welcome!

Sincerely,

Colleen & Dyan

March 2021

Pryor Cashman Women in the News

[Peloton Challenges Enforcement of Competitor's "Spinning" Mark](#) – Feb. 18, 2021

According to *Law360*, "Peloton wants to liberate the term "spinning" from trademark control after years of "baseless" threats by a rival company, setting the stage for a closely watched case about both genericide and the pitfalls of aggressive enforcement." Partner Dyan Finguerra-DuCharme commented on the issue and was quoted by *Law360*.

["Inspired or Infringed": Oxley Discussed Copyright Claims in the Film Industry with *BLaw*](#) – Feb. 16, 2021

In a conversation with *Bloomberg Law*, counsel Jamice Oxley discussed key takeaways a creative should keep in mind when approaching a pitch and dispels some myth about studios.

[Pryor Cashman's Trademark Group Once Again Ranked Top Practice by World Trademark Review](#) – Feb. 15, 2021

Pryor Cashman's Trademark Group has been ranked in the 2021 edition of World Trademark Review 1000: The World's Leading Trademark Professionals. For the eighth consecutive year, partners Brad D. Rose, Teresa Lee, and Dyan Finguerra-DuCharme are recognized individually for their top-tier practice.

[Pryor Cashman Represents Blue Hat Interactive in Registered Direct Offering](#) – Feb. 9, 2021

Pryor Cashman Partner Elizabeth Chen, Chair of the firm's China practice, represented Blue Hat Interactive Entertainment Technology (NASDAQ CM: BHAT) in a registered direct offering to accredited investors for aggregate gross proceeds to the company of approximately \$7.6 million.

[Poller Discusses Considerations in a Celebrity Divorce with *Vice*](#) – Jan. 22, 2021

Family Law Group co-chair and Executive Committee Member Judy Poller outlined numerous considerations for high net-worth individuals and celebrities facing a divorce in a Q&A discussion with *Vice*.

[Pryor Cashman Names 2 New Practice Heads, Elects 3 New Partners and Elevates 7 to Counsel](#) – Jan 6, 2021

Pryor Cashman is pleased to name partner Ali Panjwani co-chair of its Corporate Group, and partner Dennis Sughrue co-chair of its Real Estate Group. The firm also promoted Kimberly Grant, Rachel Shaw, and David Smith to the firm's partnership, and elevated Kaveri Arora, Matthew Barkan, Shusmita Chowdhury, Daniel Devine, Desiree Goldfinger, Dustin Nofziger, and Joshua Weigensberg to counsel. All promotions were effective on January 1, 2021.

[2021 IP Dreams: A Finguerra-DuCharme Chats with *IP Watchdog*](#) – Jan. 5, 2021

Partner Dyan Finguerra-DuCharme, a co-chair of Pryor Cashman's Trademark Group, discussed her 2021 wishlist for intellectual property law with *IPWatchdog*.

Articles of Interest

[How to Thrive \(and Survive\) Burnout from Work and Family Demands During COVID Event](#) – Feb 11, 2021

On Feb. 11th, *Thompson Reuters* hosted an event featuring expert Paula Davis, CEO & Founder of the Stress & Resilience Institute, for a discussion on how to learn new ways to manage and prevent burn-out during the COVID-19 pandemic. Paula provided “guidance on how to deal with some of the most common situations women lawyers are facing, including managing expectations at work, work-life balance with your partner and children at home, and how to proactively communicate client success to build the case for ongoing flexibility.”

[First Wave: The Attys Who Pioneered Law Firm Gender Suits](#) – Feb 10, 2021

“The change in law firm hiring practices has come only begrudgingly and at the point of a gun, not out of a sense of enlightenment.” - *Emmet Bondurant of Bondurant Mixson & Elmore LLP*

In 1976, Margy Kohn settled a lawsuit against Royall Koegel & Wells for the gender discrimination she experienced in her job interview for a summer associate position. According to *Law360*, “[for] decades after Kohn’s win, it was rare for women to sue law firms for gender discrimination.” Women attorneys who brought cases against their firms for gender discrimination “described humiliating trials, blows to their careers and a feeling of isolation born of being one of the few women at their offices and the only one to stand up.” But those who did stand up “paved the way for a generation of lawyers, and while gender parity in pay and rank is still a ways off, pioneers like Kohn can be credited for vast improvements in the legal industry.”

[Accelerating Women's Leadership in the Clean Energy Sector](#) – Feb. 9, 2021

On February 11th, the world celebrated [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#), “a day to call attention to the work that needs to be done to close the gender gap in participation in the energy and STEM workforce at all levels, and a day to celebrate progress we made towards this vision.” The U.S. Department of Energy, in accordance with its mission to take action to accelerate gender diversity in clean energy fields, has re-affirmed its commitment to remaining “deeply invested in ensuring women are participating and leading in the clean energy workforce.”



“The change in law firm hiring practices has come only begrudgingly and at the point of a gun, not out of a sense of enlightenment.” - Emmet Bondurant, Bondurant Mixson & Elmore LLP



[Women Rise for All: The Power of Female Leadership](#) – Feb. 9, 2021

In April 2020, U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed created [Women Rise for All](#). What started purely as a way to share the achievements of female leadership has grown into something much larger. “The initiative connects influential women across different regions to examine how their leadership is shaping pandemic response and recovery... Women Rise for All has since developed into a global call for action to actively fight the pandemic. This gathering of influential women has fostered solidarity during the COVID-19 crisis and encouraged isolated and demotivated girls and women.”

[What Black Women Leaders Are Reading](#) – Feb. 3, 2021

In honor of Black History Month, Elissa Sangster, CEO of Forté, a nonprofit organization working to advance women in business, highlighted of book recommendations provided by various talented women leaders with diverse backgrounds in Forté's community, who serve as role models, coaches, donors, and board members. As Sangster states, “February is Black History Month, and this year, it comes at a time when many of us are still sheltering in place to protect ourselves from the coronavirus. The pandemic has made it more challenging to connect with our communities and listen to diverse voices, but one way we can still do this is through books.”

A graphic titled "Upcoming Events in NYC:" featuring a blue-tinted cityscape background with the Empire State Building. The text is overlaid on the left side. To the right of the text is a vertical bar with a yellow top section and a grey bottom section.

Upcoming Events in NYC:

- [New York City Bar](#)
- [New York State Bar Association](#)
- [New York County Lawyers Association](#)



WLI Events

February 24, 2021

We hosted **Pamela Mellor**, Associate General Agent at Certified Financial Services LLC and **Rebecca Novin-Cannon, JD, CExP**, Registered Representative and Financial Advisor at Novin Cannon Financial Group LLC and Certified Financial Services LLC, spoke on the importance of prioritizing "The Order of Operations" when creating a personal financial plan.

March 17, 2021

We will be hosting **Sheila Henderson**, Chief Intellectual Property Officer, and **Olivia Dhordain**, Deputy Chief Intellectual Property Officer for Richemont.