

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Issue #6

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Marissa C. Wesely
Women's Committee Chair

LETTER FROM THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dear Friends:

Here at Simpson Thacher, the past few months have been blissfully busy. As the economy rebounds, the practice of law is beginning to resume the hectic pace to which we had all become accustomed. It is exciting (and comforting) to see things getting back to "normal" again.

As you'll see in this edition of the newsletter, our alumnae have been quite busy as well. Some of you have begun new positions as in-house counsel for major corporations, others are teaching at major law schools, and a few are enjoying much success running your own firms. It is always exciting to hear your news, and to share in the celebration of your many accomplishments.

GROWING THE RANKS OF WOMEN PARTNERS

Once again, I have much to share about the progress of women at the Firm. Of the six lawyers elected members of the Firm effective January 1, 2010, two are women:

- **Marisa D. Stavenas** (New York office) is a member of the Firm's corporate department. Her practice focuses on capital markets and securities matters with an emphasis on high yield debt and restructuring transactions.
- **Joyce Y. Xu** (New York office) is also a member of the Firm's corporate department. Her practice focuses on derivatives with an emphasis on equity derivatives.

Even more impressive, over the past three years, 42% of the new partners elected have been women.

I am also delighted to announce the promotion of **Deborah L. Stein** (Los Angeles office) to the position of Senior Counsel in the Firm's litigation department. Deborah's practice includes representing clients in a broad range of high-stakes litigation and advising insurance companies on significant coverage issues.

LOOKING BACK AT HOW FAR WE HAVE COME

This past January, a number of the Firm's women partners attended the Kate



Simpson Thacher partners at the KSP Trailblazers dinner. Top row, from left: Olga Gutman, Mary Elizabeth ("Libby") McGarry, Lori E. Lesser, Mary Beth Forshaw, Victoria B. Bjorklund, Lynn K. Neuner, Mary Kay Vyskocil; Second row, from left: Sarah E. Cogan, Lillian E. Kraemer, Marissa C. Wesely, Laura Palma



From left: Palo Alto associate Sara G. Wilcox; Of Counsel Lillian E. Kraemer; Palo Alto Tax partner Katharine P. Moir; and alumna Rebecca Boyden

Stoneman Project Trailblazers Dinner. The event recognized the women lawyers who were among the first to achieve at the highest levels at the City's most prestigious law firms. (As you may recall from earlier editions of the *Women's Connection*, the Kate Stoneman Project, organized by women partners from ten leading Manhattan law firms, provides a forum to address the advancement of women attorneys, among other things.)

Our very own **Lillian E. Kraemer** (New York office) was among the evening's honorees. A trailblazer in the truest sense of the word, Lillian was elected to the partnership in the Firm's banking practice in 1974, at a time when even women associates were a relative rarity. She established and headed the Firm's bankruptcy practice, and was the first woman ever to chair the Firm's influential Finance Committee. Lillian continued her pursuit of the practice of law for decades, and has served as Of Counsel to the Firm since her retirement. She has served on the Board of Directors of Legal Momentum for a number of years. Many thanks to you, Lillian, for paving the path for the rest of us to follow!

CREATING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR WOMEN ATTORNEYS

Especially compared to the days when Lillian Kraemer was a young partner, Simpson Thacher today offers women attorneys many more opportunities to learn, grow and succeed. One of the ways in which the Firm supports our women attorneys is by providing access to

professional development and networking opportunities.

In recent months, we have hosted a number of women-oriented events, including:

- Our Quarterly Women's Lunch in January 2010, featuring Carolyn Makinson, the Executive Director of the Women's Refugee Commission, and Aster Kidane, a member of the Board of the Women's Refugee Commission; and
- A Kate Stoneman Project event on "Women of Color at Law Firms" held at the Firm this past April. The panelists included corporate partner **Kathryn ("Katie") K. Sudol** (who recently relocated from New York to our Hong Kong office), Carmen A. Corrales of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, Margaret A. Davenport of Debevoise & Plimpton, and Tracy Richelle High of Sullivan & Cromwell. I was pleased to serve as the organizer of this very important discussion.

Our alumnae are welcome to attend all of our women-oriented programming. If you have not been receiving invitations to our events, please contact Nicole White at nwhite@stblaw.com to have your name added to our distribution list.

STAYING IN TOUCH

It is always great fun to reconnect with Simpson Thacher alumnae in person! This past March, for example, we had the opportunity to catch up with former capital markets and securities associate **Rebecca Boyden** ('00-'09) at



Janice B. Reznick

Legal Momentum's Fifth Annual Women of Achievement Awards Dinner in San Francisco. Rebecca is now Senior Counsel and Director of Corporate & Securities at Avago Technologies in San Jose, California.

ENJOYING THE MOMENT

As the trees blossom and the weather turns balmy, my thoughts turn to the long and lazy days of summer ahead. I am always amazed at just how hard we all work these days. Between the demands of the practice of law, our involvement in activities and organizations that add meaning to our personal and professional lives, and our family commitments, there is little time left to relax and reflect. We are all too busy to breathe, it seems. In the warm months ahead, I hope you each get the chance to rest, recharge, and reconnect with the people and projects that matter most to you.

Marissa C. Wesely

Women's Committee Chair

ALUMNA PROFILE

DELIGHTED AT DEUTSCHE BANK: A CONVERSATION WITH JANICE B. REZNICK

If there is such a thing as a "perfect fit" in the legal profession, alumna **Janice B. Reznick** ('90-'94) seems to have found it.

As Head of the Corporate Advisory Group and a Managing Director at Deutsche Bank, Janice oversees all employment, intellectual property, IT software development and general contract-related legal issues for the bank. The sheer magnitude and diversity of her many areas of responsibility might overwhelm others, but Janice takes it all in stride. "One of the best things about my job is the fact that my work touches on *every* aspect of Deutsche Bank's business," she says happily. "On any given day, I can offer legal advice in a broad range of businesses across the globe. My job presents an incredible opportunity to use the expertise I've developed and expand on it as the world, and the business model on Wall Street, changes."

Being a member of an in-house legal department at Janice's level of seniority involves much, much more than the practice of law. A key part of her role is to consider the *business* implications of every issue. "The advice I give is not just legal but also strategic," she explains. "I consider myself a business partner, not simply a lawyer."

Of the many areas of law under Janice's purview, employment law is her passion. "I really am a people person," she says with great enthusiasm. With a background in psychology, Janice has always been deeply interested in what motivates people. "I deal with employees



Tiffany Liston

in very challenging times—such as during terminations, or in connection with allegations of discrimination,” she says. “I also help structure their employment agreements. I like to think that I approach these delicate situations with compassion and concern.”

Not surprisingly, what Janice remembers most about Simpson Thacher are the people. Though it has been more than fifteen years since her days as an associate, she fondly recalls that the Firm was filled with “really bright, creative people with dynamic personalities.” Janice remains in touch with many alumnae, some of whom she counts among her closest friends.

In fact, it was a Simpson Thacher connection that brought Janice to Deutsche Bank. Her former officemate—alumna **Caren Pennington** (’90-’94)—had a good friend in house at Deutsche Bank, and recommended Janice for the job. The rest is history. Like Janice, Caren is also in a senior in-house role at a major financial institution: Caren serves as the Chief Compliance Officer for Trilogy Capital LLC.

When Janice is not busy at work for Deutsche Bank, she spends her time playing softball with her daughter, chasing her son in the backyard, or catching up with her husband. They live in Westfield, New Jersey, a bucolic suburb filled with quaint Victorians and neighborhood shops.

ALUMNA PROFILE

CHANGING LIVES ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME: TIFFANY LISTON CHARTS A NEW COURSE AT PUBLIC PREP

After seven years as an associate in the Firm’s litigation department, **Tiffany Liston** (’02-’09) knew she was ready for the next chapter of her career. She has always had an interest in education issues, and the arrival of her son reignited her strong belief in the transformative power of a quality school. “I was lucky to attend Riverdale Country School for 12 years” recalls Tiffany. “I believe that all families should have opportunity to choose an excellent education for their children.”

In 2009, the perfect opportunity presented itself. Thanks to a recommendation by a college roommate who knew of her interests and capabilities, Tiffany was invited to join the leadership of Public Prep Network, a charter school management organization, as Managing Director of Strategy and Development. Public Prep aims to serve New York City’s most in-need students. The ambitious organization oversees three high-performing charter schools, and plans to add three more schools to the Public Prep network by 2014.

At exactly the same time, Tiffany was offered an appealing in-house counsel position, with a comfortable salary and an easy-to-predict future. “I was unsure which path to take,” she admits. “Would I have the skills to help manage a non-profit educational organization?” Tiffany turned to litigation partner **Michael J. Chepiga** (New York office) for advice. “He was very supportive and reassuring that my skill set would transfer to the world of non-profit leadership.” As it turns out, his

advice was spot-on.

Tiffany's new role is extraordinarily demanding, and requires her to wear many hats. She serves as the organization's de facto in-house lawyer, reviewing just about every contract that comes in the door and advising on 501(c)(3) compliance issues. But she also plays a major part in all aspects of Public Prep's management, ranging from strategic partnerships and fundraising to the admissions process.

Though the work she does at Public Prep is very different from her prior life as a securities litigator, Tiffany credits much of her success at Public Prep to the lessons she learned at the Firm. "At Simpson Thacher, I was managed, and managed others. I juggled complex cases and I learned how to work with different personalities," she explains. These "people skills" have enabled Tiffany to tackle the many challenges of her new role with finesse.

A year later, Tiffany is still relishing the thrill of her work. "It is so gratifying to know that what I do each day has a real impact on at-risk communities," she says with her trademark smile.

ALUMNAE NOTES

Former litigation associate **Diahann Billings-Burford** ('02-'03) is now the Chief Service Officer for the City of New York. Diahann oversees the implementation of 38 initiatives in NYC Service, the city-wide initiative created by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and designed to make New York City the easiest place in which to volunteer. Prior to this appointment, Diahann served as Deputy Executive Director of External Affairs for City Year

New York, a role in which she established and maintained relationships with politicians, community leaders and stakeholders and oversaw recruitment and communications. Diahann is a proud Brooklyn native and currently lives there with her husband and her two children.

After a few years as a litigation associate in New York, **Erin Bradrick** ('07-'10) has moved across the country to sunny San Diego, where she will begin a clerkship with the Honorable Dana M. Sabraw of the United States District Court for the Southern District of California in the fall. She is spending the next few months traveling.

Following several years in the Firm's litigation department, **Rebecca Brunswick** ('07-'10) left the Firm a few weeks ago to join the Office of the General Counsel of Avon Products as a member of Avon's global legal investigations department. Rebecca's new position involves training local counsel on points of U.S. law (Avon conducts business in more than a hundred countries!) and assisting with compliance issues.

Former litigation associate **Karen S. Cestari** ('95-'96, '98-present) has been working with the Firm on a project basis since 2001. Karen is instrumental in preparing the Firm's new monthly *Insurance Law Alert*, and annually updates the *Handbook on Insurance Coverage Disputes* (Aspen Law & Business 2009), co-authored by litigation department chair **Barry R. Ostrager** (New York office). Karen now lives with her husband and her two children, Alex (age 9) and Julia (age 6) in Washingtonville, New York.

Once an Exempt Organizations and Corporate associate, **Iris S. Chen** ('01-'04)

now serves as Senior Corporate Counsel for Google Inc. in New York. She manages the legal team responsible for supporting commercial transactions related to Google's advertising programs in North America and serves as the lead attorney for legal staff based in Google's New York office. Though it has been many years since she left the Firm, Iris remains closely connected to Simpson Thacher. She recently returned to the Firm to speak at an Affinity Group Professional Development Series meeting on April 19, 2010.

Following four years as a litigation associate, **Janelle Filson** ('06-'10) has traded in her life at the Firm for a new role as a staff attorney with the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C. She will be working in the Bureau of Competition reviewing and investigating proposed mergers, primarily in the health care and retail sectors.

Once a litigation associate at Simpson Thacher, **Rebecca L. Fine** ('97-'02) is now a partner with the firm of Schindler Cohen & Hochman LLP in Manhattan. Rebecca concentrates her practice on domestic and international litigation. Her experience includes several significant jury and bench trials, arbitrations and mediations in the areas of securities and shareholder litigations, subprime litigation, hedge fund litigation, bankruptcy, takeover litigation, partnership disputes, international arbitration and art law. This month, Rebecca will marry Peter C. Gourdine, an associate at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. In the fall, her son, Marco, will enter sixth grade at Fieldston, and her daughter, Zoë, will be a fifth-grader at P.S. 199.

After a decade of practicing law at

Simpson Thacher and at a suburban New York litigation boutique, **Christine M. Ford** ('98-'08) has combined her practice with her husband Patrick's to form Ford Law Firm LLP. With five attorneys, Ford Law Firm provides legal services to large and small businesses, with a particular emphasis on litigation, telecommunications, commercial real estate, leasing and land use law. Christine, Patrick and their two children live in Rye, New York.

For more than fifteen years, **Fagie Hartman** ('94-'10) practiced with the Firm's Labor & Employment Law Group, most recently as Counsel. Fagie has now joined a client of the firm, L-3 Communications, as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel. In her new role, she oversees all employment matters related to the company's 67,000 employees worldwide. "Although practicing law as an in-house counsel requires somewhat of a different skill-set than that which I used at Simpson, I will forever draw on the fabulous training I received there," says Fagie. "While I love my new surroundings at L-3, I am delighted that I am only a few short blocks from the Firm and the wonderful friends I have there."

While at Simpson Thacher, **Natalie Hwang** ('07-'10) was a private equity associate within the private funds formation group. She recently joined The Blackstone Group L.P. as an Associate in March 2010, where she has been involved in the structuring and development of the multi-manager portfolios of Blackstone Alternative Asset Management as well as the review, analysis and negotiation of related investments.

Following more than five years as an associate in Capital Markets and

Securities, **Dana C. Kahney** ('04-'10) left the Firm in March to join Verizon Communications Inc. as Counsel. Dana's new responsibilities include advising the board of directors and executives on corporate governance matters, assisting the corporate secretary with annual meetings, managing shareholder and public communications and overseeing general corporate matters. Dana is greatly enjoying her new role at Verizon as well as her new daughter, Tatum, who was born in November of 2009.

Previously a litigation associate, **Kathy L. McFarland** ('95-'04) is now a solo practitioner in Woodstock, New York, where she serves as outside general counsel to TRUMPF Inc., the Connecticut manufacturing subsidiary of a German laser technology company, does volunteer mediation in the local courts, and occasionally takes on appellate matters in the New York state court system. Kathy's daughters are both grown and thriving in diverse careers: one is head of marketing for a Fortune 500 energy company in Dallas, Texas; the other plays second violin in the Madison Symphony Orchestra in Wisconsin. She and husband Ken Hauser will celebrate 30 years together in the coming year.

Former litigation associate **Abby Marie Mollen** ('09-'10) is beginning a clerkship in July 2010 with the Honorable Sonia Maria Sotomayor, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Justice Sotomayor made history as the first Latina Supreme Court Justice. She is only the third woman to serve on the bench at the highest court in the land. Prior to working at Simpson Thacher, Abby clerked for the Honorable David S.

Tatel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

After spending a few years as an associate in the Firm's corporate practice, **Courage Otaigbe** ('07-'10) has embarked on the next chapter in her career. She now serves as an attorney at one of IBM Corporation's New York City offices. In her new role, Courage reviews and negotiates agreements with IBM's various clients.

Following nearly a decade in the Firm's private funds group, **Amanda N. Persaud** ('99-'09) is now Counsel at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. She focuses her practice on the formation, fund raising and operation of domestic and international private investment funds.

More than a decade ago, **Kathleen ("Kathy") M. Scanlon** ('87-'98) was an associate at Simpson Thacher. She now has her own arbitration and alternative dispute resolution firm in Manhattan. Kathy has been named to the CPR's Panel of Distinguished Neutrals, and was recently appointed Chair of the Arbitration Committee for the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Fordham University School of Law, teaching in the area of professional responsibility.

Former corporate associate **Dominique Schulte** ('99-'09) and her husband welcomed a new baby boy, Wendell Thomas Clayton Seirer, on February 10, 2010. Arriving in the middle of a snowstorm, Thomas weighed in at six pounds, ten ounces. He joins big sister, Tenley.

Ingrid C. Seradarian ('04-'10) spent six years as an associate in the Firm's Exempt Organizations practice before

leaving this year to serve as Special Counsel to JPMorgan Chase's charitable foundation and global philanthropy program. Ingrid's new position entails advising the global philanthropy group on structural and operating matters, including governance and domestic and international grantmaking, and overseeing legal matters related to the bank's extensive art collection.

Once a litigation associate, **Felecia L. Stern** ('94-'02) was recently named Co-Head of the Mass Tort Practice Group of Bernstein Liebhard LLP, which has been recognized year after year by *The National Law Journal* as one of the top plaintiffs' litigation firms. Recent accomplishments include securing a \$400 million settlement on behalf of the class in *In re Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. Securities Litigation*. Felecia resides in New Rochelle with her husband and four children.

Former corporate associate in the Hong Kong office, **Misi Tang** ('08-'10) has joined the Investment Banking Division of Barclays Capital Asia Limited. In her new position, Misi focuses on capital market transactions including equity, equity linked and high yield products in the Asia Pacific region. She is also involved in mergers & acquisition transactions in the region.

Former litigation associate **Kathleen L. Turland** ('96-'03) is Litigation and Legal Policy Counsel at GE Capital in Norwalk, Connecticut, where she has been for the last five years. She works on investigations and litigations over a threshold amount involving the various businesses within GE Capital, and enjoys the variety of the matters she handles, which range from antitrust and lender liability actions to

contract suits. Kathleen and husband, Greg Berzolla, live in Old Greenwich with their children Zachary (age 14), Courtney (age 9) and Andrew (age 8).

Following several years as an associate in the Firm's Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits practice, **Beth Understahl** ('06-'10) moved from New York to Phoenix this past year. She is now an associate with Perkins Coie Brown & Bain.

With a five year tenure in the Firm's litigation department under her belt, former associate **Katherine J. Weall** ('02-'07) is now a Lecturer-in-Law at Columbia Law School, her alma mater. Katherine teaches Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy to 1L students, and the training she received from Simpson Thacher partners has proven invaluable to her in that role. "My first lecture on arguing to an appellate court is based almost verbatim on the notes I took when **Mark G. Cunha** (New York office) mentored me before my first argument in front of the First Department." Katherine observes. "And after my students practice something for the first time—writing an introductory paragraph, or a statement of facts—I'll give them a section of a Simpson Thacher brief as a sample of how 'the pros' do it. Their first reaction is usually 'Wow—they're using the facts to tell a really good story. We're allowed to DO that?'" Katherine also practices with the firm of Togut, Segal & Segal LLP in Manhattan, where she specializes in bankruptcy litigation.

Former litigation associate **Pamela L. Weisberg** ('82-'90) has her own firm in Los Angeles, primarily specializing in entertainment and new media deals. Pam has two sons, Simon (age 11) and Kalman (age 6).

SIMPSON THACHER TODAY - AND THE AWARD GOES TO ...

Earlier this month, the *Los Angeles* and *San Francisco Daily Journal* named litigation partner **Alexis S. Coll-Very** (Palo Alto office) one of the 100 "Top Women Litigators" of 2010. The publication recognized Alexis for her work in internal investigations, complex commercial and shareholder litigation and litigation stemming from mergers and acquisitions. Congratulations, Alexis!

At a ceremony on May 26, the New York City Bar Association honored corporate partner **Marissa C. Wesely** (New York office) with the prestigious 2010 Diversity Champion Award. The award, presented by the New York City Bar's Committee to Enhance Diversity in the Profession, recognizes the critical role Marissa has played in promoting and supporting diversity efforts both within Simpson Thacher and in the New York legal community as a whole. Hats off to you, Marissa, for your important work! Former Simpson Thacher associate **Duane Hughes** ('97-'00), who is now at Morgan Stanley, also received this award.

Corporate partner **Joyce Y. Xu** (New York office) has been named a recipient of the prestigious Burton Award for Legal Achievement for the chapter she authored entitled "U.S. Corporate and Regulatory Aspects of Equity Derivatives," which was included in *Equity Derivatives: Documenting and Understanding Equity Derivative Products* (April 2009). Corporate associate **Gabrielle Kelleher** (New York office) assisted in the preparation of the article. The Burton Awards, which honors the nation's finest legal writers, is run in association with the Library of Congress

Law Library. The 2010 Burton Awards dinner will be held in the Library of Congress on June 14, 2010.

SIMPSON THACHER TODAY - APPEALING APPOINTMENTS

Corporate associate **Folake Ayoola** (New York office) was recently elected President of the Nigerian Lawyers Association, Inc. (NLA), which provides leadership and advocacy for the legal needs and interests of the Nigerian community in the United States and around the world. During her tenure as Vice President of the organization in 2008, she founded its Women's Committee and the NLA Scholarship Program.

Litigation partner **Mary Beth Forshaw** and Intellectual Property partner **Lori E. Lesser**, as well as Counsel **Jayma M. Meyer** (all of the New York office) have been appointed to Law360's 2010 Editorial Advisory Boards. The Advisory Boards are comprised of leading professionals who are responsible for providing guidance concerning Law360's daily legal news coverage of developments and trends in various substantive areas of law. Mary Beth will advise on Law360's insurance publications, Lori will advise on their intellectual property publications, and Jayma will advise on their antitrust publications.

Intellectual Property partner **Lori E. Lesser** (New York office) has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Harvard Law School Association ("HLSA"). The HLSA serves approximately 37,000 graduates of Harvard Law School around the world by sponsoring programs and providing a link to current events at

Harvard Law School. Lori previously served as a trustee of the Harvard Law School Association of New York City.

Litigation partner **Linda H. Martin** (New York office) has been elected as an officer of the Board of Directors of the Law Alumni Association ("LAA") of Duke University School of Law, and chairperson of the Regional Alumni Affairs Committee. Along with the Board of Visitors, the Law Alumni Association is one of the two governing boards of Duke Law School. Together, the boards are responsible for communicating the interests of alumni and friends of the law school to the dean and staff, representing the law school in the greater community, and helping build the law school through leadership. Linda was appointed to the LAA Board of Directors in October 2009. She previously served as a member of the Duke Law School Future Forum.

Litigation partner **Mary Elizabeth ("Libby") McGarry** (New York office) was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Women in Law Empowerment Forum ("WILEF"), the *only* organization exclusively dedicated to women from the AmLaw 200 and Fortune 1000 Corporate Law Departments. WILEF presents unique, cutting-edge educational program for the country's most accomplished women attorneys. Upcoming programs include: "Your Career and You: Taking the Lead in Developing Your Practice" (June 2010; New York) and "Ambition: The Fuel for Your Career Engine (or Why Talent Isn't Enough)" (June 2010; Washington, D.C.).

Litigation partner **Lynn K. Neuner** (New York office) has been elected Chair of the Executive Committee of the

Association of the Bar of the City of New York. The Executive Committee is responsible for the management of the general affairs of the Association.

After two years as a corporate associate, **Margaret ("Maggie") Hensler Nicholls** (New York office) has transitioned into a new role as a Corporate Practice Specialist in the Firm's Business Development department. Maggie works closely with the Firm's partners on strategic business development initiatives, as well as client pitches, marketing materials and other projects of importance to the Firm.

Corporate associate **Sara L. Terheggen** (Los Angeles office) was recently elected District Governor of the California Women Lawyers ("CWL") Board of Governors. As the only statewide bar association for women in California, CWL maintains a primary focus on advancing women in the legal profession. Sara will represent the District of Los Angeles. She will be officially sworn in at the CWL Annual Dinner which is held during the California State Bar Annual Meeting.

SIMPSON THACHER TODAY - NOTEWORTHY PUBLICATIONS

Litigation partner **Mary Beth Forshaw** (New York office)—together with partners **Andrew T. Frankel** (New York office), **Bryce L. Friedman** (New York office), **Michael J. Garvey** (New York office), **Michael D. Kibler** (Los Angeles office), **Chet A. Kronenberg** (Los Angeles office) and **David J. Woll** (New York office)—has begun publishing a monthly *Insurance Law Alert* to provide timely reports on insurance law and litigation developments

of interest to the Firm's friends and clients. To be added to the mailing list for the *Alert*, please email Janine M. Colyer at jcolyer@stblaw.com.

In addition to publishing the *Insurance Law Alert*, Mary Beth has co-authored a number of noteworthy articles as of late. Together with litigation partner **Chet A. Kronenberg** and litigation associate **Peter Jordan** (both of the Los Angeles office), Mary Beth published an article entitled "A Recall Wake Up Call" in the May 2010 edition of *Bloomberg Law Reports-Insurance Law*. The article explores whether the costs associated with a product recall are covered under standard comprehensive general liability policies, and recall insurance generally. And along with litigation partner **Bryce L. Friedman** and litigation associate **Alexander B. Simkin** (both of the New York office), Mary Beth published an article entitled "Insurance Coverage Questions Raised by Modern Public Nuisance Claims" in the Spring 2010 edition of *New Appleman on Insurance: Current Critical Issues in Insurance Law*. The article provides an overview of the tort of public nuisance and insurance coverage issues that may arise from such claims under commercial general liability insurance policies.

Corporate International featured litigation partners **Mary Elizabeth ("Libby") McGarry** and **David W. Ichel** (both of the New York office), and the Firm's product liability practice generally, in the March edition. The article highlighted Libby's successful dismissal of actions brought against the tobacco industry by parties seeking reimbursement for the cost of smoking-related disease, and actions brought against the

firearms industry both by shooting victims and by municipalities seeking to recover their alleged costs from gun violence, among other successes. The article also highlighted David's successful dismissal of 10 class action lawsuits against beer, wine and spirits manufacturers seeking billions of dollars in alleged profits from underage drinking based upon the defendants' marketing.

SIMPSON THACHER TODAY - ENGAGING SPEAKING

Partner and head of the Firm's Exempt Organizations Group **Victoria B. Bjorklund**, along with Senior Counsel **David A. Shevlin** and associate **Charlie Platt** (all of the New York office) will speak at the ALI-ABA Charitable Giving Techniques Conference at the Levin Institute in New York City in June. Victoria will speak on "Giving to the Private Foundation, Donor-Advised Fund, and Supporting Organization." David and Charlie will discuss "Ethics and Planned Giving."

When she's not busy assisting exempt organizations, Victoria occasionally finds time for one of her passions: rhythm & blues and early rock 'n roll. On April 3, Victoria served as the guest DJ with Bob Porter on WBGO (88.3 FM), National Public Radio's jazz and rhythm & blues station.

This past April, corporate partner **Caroline B. Gottschalk** (New York office) spoke on an alumni panel at Duke Law School as part of the Dean's Course for first-year students. The panelists addressed issues of women in the law and work/life balance. Caroline serves on

Duke Law School's Board of Visitors.

Corporate partner **Gary I. Horowitz** (New York office) spoke at the Bar None 2010 Women of Color in Leadership Symposium entitled "We've Come a Long Way, Baby! Or Have We?: Winning as Women of Color" held at the offices of Skadden, Arps this past March. He served as one of the panelists on "Winning as Women of Color: Strategies for Success." Corporate associate **Folake Ayoola** (New York office) was one of the event's organizers, and corporate partner **Marissa C. Wesely** (New York office) also assisted with the program.

Corporate partner **Marni J. Lerner** (New York office) spoke on a panel entitled "Change In the Workplace" at Harvard Law School's Fourth Annual Women's Law Association Conference this past February. Marni discussed changes in the employment landscape, the importance of mentoring and other issues relating to the promotion of the interests of women in the legal profession.

Intellectual Property partner **Lori E. Lesser** (New York office) spoke at the Practising Law Institute's "Advanced Seminar on Copyright Law 2010" this past April. She addressed recent trends in secondary liability for copyright infringement. In mid-May, Lori spoke again, this time on the topic of "Social Media: Managing Risks in the Workplace" at the Practising Law Institute's "Information Technology Law Institute 2010."

This past January, litigation partner **Lynn K. Neuner** (New York office) spoke at the American Conference Institute's National Advanced Forum on Advertising Law. Lynn led a panel on claim review

standards and policies for developing appropriate claims substantiation in-house. In April, she spoke again at the Asbestos Insurance Litigation Conference in Philadelphia. Lynn and her fellow panelists discussed recent insurance case law updates.

Corporate partner **Risë B. Norman** (New York office) spoke at the New York City Bar Association's "11th Annual Corporate & Securities Law Update: Doing Deals in the Current Economic Market" program this past May. She participated on a panel entitled "Corporate Developments Update," which examined executive compensation and proxy season trends from the past proxy season; creative ways to deal with ongoing liquidity issues, including debt buybacks and exchanges, high yield market trends, trends in giving security interests and types of collateral to get financing; and restructuring trends among customers and suppliers.

Senior Counsel **Deborah L. Stein** (Los Angeles office) spoke on a panel entitled "Computer Modeling of Wind, Earthquake, and Climate Change: Will It Significantly Change Insurance Underwriting and Coverage Litigation?" at the American Bar Association's "Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar" held in Tucson, Arizona this past March. The panel addressed recent climate change decisions and the potential usefulness of models in insurance underwriting and coverage litigation.

Corporate partner **Kathryn ("Katie") King Sudol** (Hong Kong office) spoke at a Kate Stoneman Project event hosted by the Firm this past April on a panel entitled "Women of Color at Law Firms: A

Conversation." Fellow corporate partner **Marissa C. Wesely** (New York office) helped to organize the event.

This past March, corporate associate **Sara L. Terheggen** (Los Angeles office) co-chaired an event hosted by "100 Women in Hedge Funds." The program, "Finding Alpha in Film: The Alternative Alternative," brought together the financial and entertainment communities in Los Angeles to discuss the trends and challenges in investing in film. Sara is a founding member of the Los Angeles Planning Committee for "100 Women in Hedge Funds."

Personal Planning partner **Laura M. Twomey** (New York office) spoke at the American Bar Association's Real Property Trust and Estates Section Spring Symposia in Philadelphia this past May. Laura spoke on a panel entitled "New Developments in Assisted Reproductive Technology and their Effects on Estate Planning." She discussed new Uniform Laws addressing parentage and inheritance for children born using donated reproductive material and/or a surrogate, or conceived after a parent's death.

In February, corporate partners **Marissa C. Wesely** and **L. Francis ("Frank") Huck** (both of the New York office) spoke at the Practising Law Institute's "Leveraged Financing 2010" Program. Frank co-chaired the event, and spoke on a panel entitled "Leveraged Financing Today." The panel provided a market overview and discussed factors underlying refinancing and new deal activity, sources of financing, trends in deal structure, and product, market and geographic comparisons. Marissa spoke on the "Recent Developments and

Trends" panel, and discussed the re-emergence of the leveraged financed market, as well as refinancing structures, asset-based (ABL) financings and middle market versus large cap transactions. In April, Marissa spoke again, this time on a panel entitled "Successful Rainmaking for Women Lawyers" at the International Bar Association's 4th World Women Lawyers Conference in London. The panel addressed strategies for generating more profitable work, turning contacts into clients, elevating one's profile, and achieving empowerment within one's own law firm, among other topics.

In February, corporate partners **Joyce Y. Xu** and **Gary I. Horowitz** (both of the New York office) were panelists at the first ever Private Sector Career Symposium held at Columbia Law School, their *alma mater*. The primary purpose of the symposium was to expose Columbia Law School students to the diverse and dynamic nature of private sector law practice. Joyce spoke on a panel entitled "Structured Products: What's Become of Them?," and Gary discussed "Working with Private Equity and Hedge Fund Clients."

SIMPSON THACHER TODAY - AMAZING ARRIVALS

Litigation associate **Helena Almeida** (New York office) and her husband, Michael, welcomed their daughter Isabel Almeida Jordan on December 11, 2009. Isabel weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces. She is now learning to sit, roll and play the drums.

Associate **Elizabeth Cooper** (New York office) and her husband, Doug Horowitz, welcomed their daughter

Alexandra on January 31, 2010. Alexandra weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces.

Associate **Sarah Dunn** (New York office) and her husband, Jeff Grossman, welcomed their daughter Sasha Rose on March 4, 2010. She weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces. She is now perfecting her baby yoga skills.

Associate **Andrea Griswold** (New York office) and her husband, Benjamin, welcomed their son, Benji Jr., on January 26, 2010. He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces. He is now learning to sit up.

Corporate associate **Karen Hsu Kelley** (New York office) and her husband, Jason, welcomed their son James Raymond on February 26, 2010. James weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 21 inches. His future plans include learning to roll over.

Antitrust associate **Kathryn A. McCarthy** (New York office) and her significant other, Dave, welcomed their son Cormac Timothy Wakeman on April 23, 2010. Cormac weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces. Cormac's favorite activities include swaddle time and stroller rides.

Director of corporate training **Maina Tilton Rice** (New York office) and her husband, Ian, welcomed their daughter Spencer Aubrey Denise on May 2, 2010. Spencer weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and arrived with a full head of hair. The proud parents are feeling very blessed, and enjoying the many joys of life with Spencer.

Associate **Lisa Rubin** (New York office) and her husband, Jon Oram, welcomed their daughter Emily Rubin

Oram on March 21, 2010. Emily weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces. She loves music, smiling, and taking in the sights of her neighborhood parks from her stroller.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

Your friends and former colleagues want to know where you are and what you are doing! If you have any professional or personal news, or even if you just want to check in with the network of the women of Simpson Thacher, we'd all like to hear from you. Click [here](#) to send an item for inclusion in the next edition of the *Women's Connection*.

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UNITED STATES

New York

425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
+1-212-455-2000

Los Angeles

1999 Avenue of the Stars
Los Angeles, CA 90067
+1-310-407-7500

Palo Alto

2550 Hanover Street
Palo Alto, CA 94304
+1-650-251-5000

Washington, D.C.

1155 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
+1-202-636-5500

EUROPE

London

CityPoint
One Ropemaker Street
London EC2Y 9HU
England
+44-(0)20-7275-6500

ASIA

Beijing

3119 China World Office 1
1 Jianguomenwai Avenue
Beijing 100004
China
+86-10-5965-2999

Hong Kong

ICBC Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong
+852-2514-7600

Tokyo

Ark Mori Building
12-32, Akasaka 1-Chome
Minato-Ku, Tokyo 107-6037
Japan
+81-3-5562-6200

LATIN AMERICA

São Paulo

Av. Presidente Juscelino Kubitschek, 1455
São Paulo, SP 04543-011
Brazil
+55-11-3546-1000