

RHODE ISLAND WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

UPCOMING EVENTS:



RIWBA's Winter Walking Challenge:

For the second year in a row, RIWBA is shaking up its annual Month of Giving, when we feature the great community organizations making a difference in Rhode Island, with a Winter Walking Challenge! This challenge will take us from **Sunday, February 5, 2023**, through the official end of winter on Saturday, March 18, 2023! This challenge will combine all the benefits of exercise during the coldest, dreariest parts of the year, with the chance to make a meaningful donation to a community organization making a difference in Rhode Island. Which organization? Well, that will be winners' choice!

Here's the breakdown. We are asking members for the next 6 weeks to:

- **PLEDGE** to make a charitable donation of at least \$20.00 to the winning community organization. Send your pledge by check made out to RIWBA to Lisa M. Kresge's attention at 362 Broadway, Providence, RI 02909, by Friday, February 10, 2023.
- **WALK** (or jog, or bike—any movement counts!), for at least 20 minutes, up to 5 days a week over the 6-week challenge.
- **TRACK** how much you walk. Make a copy of our template [here](#), which will automatically add up your totals!
 - **DAILY POINT.** Give yourself 1 point for each day that you walk at least 20 minutes.
 - **WEEKLY POINT.** Add an extra 1 point if you meet the challenge for 5 days in a week.
 - **BONUS POINTS.** We will announce one "bonus point day" at the beginning of each week. Give yourself an extra 1 point if you walk on that day.
 - **SEND** your point total for the week - more info to follow.
- **SUPPORT** the winners' community organization! There two ways to win:

- GET THE MOST POINTS. At the end of the month, RIWBA will announce the participants with the top 2 point totals, and direct the participants to donate their pledges to the winners' chosen community organizations!
- GET THE BEST PICTURE. While you are out and about, snap some photos of your favorite scenery to share with the RIWBA membership. Send your photos to our Social Media & Website Committee chair, Kelsey Peck, kpeck@adlercohen.com. At the end of the challenge we will choose a winner with the most-liked photo and ask our participants to donate their pledges to the winner's chosen community organization!
- For those who would like to share a walk with their RIWBA colleagues, we will meet in Providence on Wednesdays at 12:00 in front of Superior Court for a quick, 20-minute walking loop over the pedestrian bridge downtown.
- If you have any questions, contact Jessica Rider at jrider@whelancorrente.com

Please join the Rhode Island Women’s Bar Association, in person or virtually, for its 2023 CLE Series, sponsored by Locke Lord - “How to Turn Your Pandemic Burnout into a Superpower for 2023 and Beyond”:

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Locke Lord Providence
One Financial Plaza, 28th Floor
Providence, RI

1.0 CLE Credit

Lunch will be provided

2023 is a unique time for women lawyers to reevaluate their approach to managing their time and priorities so that they can kick a sustainable dent in burnout and create more space for what matters most to them. Join past RIWBA president Kate Ahern to talk through a roadmap for turning the past three years into a superpower for getting what you want out of your life and legal practice in 2023 and beyond. You’ll learn why this moment in time is different, how to use that to your advantage, how to approach making changes going forward, and how to keep those changes going.

Speaker: Kate Ahern, J.D. L.L.M. (aka Kate Unfrazzled): Kate is on a mission to change the burnout-inducing culture of the legal industry. She guides lawyers on time management, priorities management, burnout, and the related impact of gender bias and other external pressures. She also helps law firms support associate development in time management, feedback management and practical skills to attract and retain engaged, committed, practice-ready lawyers. Kate is a RIWBA past President, RIWBA Ada Sawyer Award recipient, past board member of the National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations, founder of the former Women Lawyers News online publication and community, and author of many articles, resources, and toolkits to support and advance women lawyers. She’s also a law professor, transactional lawyer, former AmLaw 200 attorney, and generally more fun than her LL.M. in tax might otherwise suggest.



FREE to RIWBA members

[Not a member - click here to join!](#)

Please register by Friday February 10, 2023.

Email Sam Vasques with any questions at samantha.vasques@lockelord.com.

Join the Aurora Civic Association for their Next Event of Our Speaker Series by welcoming Attorney, Advocate and New York Times Best Selling Author Rabia Chaudry on International Women's Day ~ Wednesday March 8, 2023 beginning at 5:30 p.m. with light fare and complimentary wine followed by dinner with a choice of Scrod, Chicken Aurora or Prime Rib.

Event Chairpersons Eva Mancuso and Alison Bologna cost is \$75 per person inclusive of service charge and tax and an autographed copy of her new book "Fatty Fatty Boom Boom".

Please call Natalie for reservations at 401-861-1111 no later than 2/10/23 they expect the evening to sell out so please reserve your spot soon!



The Roger Williams University School of Law Pro Bono Collaborative Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law starts on February 1 and will run through the end of May!

Participants are asked to “read, watch, and do” one challenge in each category over the course of the challenge campaign. We’ve never done this type of education and awareness-raising initiative so we really need your help to make this a success.

Please spread the word and [join the challenge!](#) RWU Law School is asking all advisory board members to:

1. [Join the challenge!](#)
2. Spread the word in your law firm or organization—send an email and ask people to join the challenge, put the challenge logo on your website, and share the challenge information on your social media platforms.
3. Post the attached poster/flyer in your office and ask others to do the same.
4. Participate in the *PBC Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law* kick-off zoom event "What Does Housing Have To Do With Race?" on February 15 from 6-7 pm. Register [here](#). This will be a great introductory event for anyone interested in learning about housing discrimination.

Mock Trial Judges Needed!!

Brown University Mock Trial is hosting a Mock Trial weekend and is in need of Judges. Please consider signing up to help with this wonderful collegiate program by the American Mock Trial Association. [Judge Sign Up Information](#)



“First Circuit Insights.” The United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit is hosting a court-sponsored, one-hour presentation by Margaret D. McGaughey, former Appellate Chief of the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Maine, entitled "First Circuit Insights." Attorney McGaughey will give tips for effective oral argument based on her interviews of 19 state and federal appellate jurists and her experience arguing 450 First Circuit appeals. Both experienced and less seasoned practitioners will benefit from the seminar. Please feel free to share this registration link with colleagues and other attorneys who may be interested in this opportunity. If you are involved with a legal organization or bar association, please feel free to distribute the materials to its members well.

There is no charge to attend, and continuing legal education (CLE) credit will be available. The program will be presented remotely via Microsoft Teams from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (E.S.T.) on **Wednesday, March 15, 2023.** Participants can access the program through a browser and do not need to download Microsoft Teams to attend.

To register for this event, please click this link. You will be prompted to add your name and email address as part of the registration process. If you are seeking CLE credit, when you register, please add the jurisdiction(s) for which you are seeking CLE credit and your corresponding bar number(s). Please note that, as New Hampshire is a self-certifying jurisdiction, if you are seeking CLE credit there, you

should apply for CLE credit individually. You must register by Monday, March 13, 2023.

When registering, you will be directed to provide your name, email address, and CLE information, and, once you have submitted the required information, you will automatically receive a link and calendar entry to the remote presentation at the email address that you provided. If you have trouble registering for the event or you do not receive a link after you register, please contact Kelsey Kissane, Administrative Specialist/Event Coordinator, at [CLESeminar@ca1.uscourts.gov](mailto:CLESeminars@ca1.uscourts.gov).

On the day of the remote presentation, Wednesday, March 15, 2023, you will need to click on the link or the calendar entry received through the registration process to join the remote presentation. You should log-in to the event prior to 11:30 a.m. to test the link, and you will be admitted to the program as it begins at 11:30 a.m. At the conclusion of the presentation, information will be provided to obtain a certificate of attendance that can be used to gain CLE credit.

2023 First Circuit Judicial Conference: The 2023 First Circuit Judicial Conference will be held **April 19 - 20, 2023** at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. The Circuit Judicial Conference is an opportunity for federal judges and attorneys who practice in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, and Puerto Rico to gather for lectures, discussions and presentations about the practice of law in our courts, recent developments in federal law, and topics related to the administration of justice.

The conference will begin with an opening reception on Wednesday, April 19, and end on Thursday, April 20. Plenary sessions on Thursday include a panel discussion related to confronting racial injustice and a presentation addressing the last Supreme Court term by New York University Law Professor Melissa Murray. Other conference highlights include a fireside chat with Justice Stephen Breyer, and a presentation by Harvard Radcliffe Institute Dean Tomiko Brown-Nagin about her recent biography of the Honorable Constance Baker Motley. Additional sessions for federal judges will continue on Friday, April 21, 2023.

Please click on the link below for further information on the conference agenda and registration. A limited number of scholarships are available to assist attorneys with

the conference fees. Please contact Kelly McQuillan at Kelly_McQuillan@ca1.uscourts.gov to inquire about this option.

If you have general questions about the Conference or need assistance in navigating the website, please contact Kelsey Kissane in the Circuit Executive's Office at 617-748-9983 or Kelsey_Kissane@ca1.uscourts.gov.

If you are able to attend, please register [here](#).

PAST EVENTS:

Members of the newly-formed group “Women Owned Law Firms” met this past month at the law offices of Kristen Sloan Maccini and Christine Marinello in North Kingstown. If you are an owner of a law firm or are considering starting one, reach out to Lindsay at lindsay@lindsaylieberman.com to join the group.



Making the Connection: Leveraging Your Digital Presence to Build Your Professional Brand Was a Success!

Dennise M. Kowalczyk, a digital engagement strategist and owner of CTD Creative Consulting presented in January 2023 to RIWBA. The topics she covered were: Creating a professional brand, crafting an introduction pitch, leveraging your LinkedIn profile, and how to build your connections through networking. To get access to resource links that she shared at the session (plus some bonus links), be sure to sign up for her e-newsletter [here](#). To sign up for her free Digi Dialogue Roundtable Info sessions, you can learn more [here](#). You can contact her here for more information: Dennise@BusinessRelationshipsMatter.com to learn more about her services that includes an assessment, recommendations, and a 30 minute review - Cost: \$199.00.

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Lindsay Lieberman's article, "Why Victims Revenge Porn Stay Silent and How to Help," which she co-authored with Allison Mahoney Esq. was published in Colorado Newsline. [You can read the article here!](#)

Kate Ahern (past RIWBA President) published this article on [Becoming a Leader in Associate Retention, Support, and Career Development](#) in the ABA Law Practice Division January Leadership issue. The article walks through three keys to training amazing associates, as well as the connection to reducing burnout, boosting diversity, and increasing innovation in practice. There's also a checklist to get started at the end.

Congratulations to the following RIBWA Members on their new employment opportunities!

Gina Renzulli Lemay will be starting as Counsel with Oliverio & Marcaccio, LLP.

Andrea Shea will be joining the legal team for Governor McKee.

Jacqueline Kelley recently became a certified professional with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM-CP).

Want to brag on one of your fellow members? Including yourself? Email Lindsay Lieberman at lindsay@lindsaylieberman.com so that we can include those accomplishments in a future edition!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, ARTICLES & RESOURCES OF INTEREST:

Scholarship Opportunity: The annual Trial LawHER Scholarship application window is now open. This is a \$10,000 scholarship given to a female rising 3L who aspires to become a plaintiff trial lawyer. As of 2023, applications for the Trial LawHER Scholarship are accepted annually from January 5 through May 1.

All law students who fit the above description are invited to apply. Further information and instructions to apply can be found [here](#).

If students need a resource on where to begin in their essay, please direct them to: [Essay Resources](#).

Rhode Island Bar Association House of Delegates Applications: Involvement in the activities of the Rhode Island Bar Association is a richly rewarding experience. One way to become familiar with Bar Association activities is by serving as a member of the House of Delegates. For those interested in becoming a member of the Bar's Executive Committee and an eventual Bar officer, House of Delegates' membership is a necessary first step. To learn more about Rhode Island Bar Association governance, please go to the Bar's website.

The Nominating Committee will meet soon to prepare a slate of officers and members of the 2023-2024 Rhode Island Bar Association House of Delegates. The term of office is July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024. If you have not already done so, to be considered for appointment to the House of Delegates, please send a letter of interest no later than **February 24, 2023**.

PLEASE NOTE: Current members of the Bar's House of Delegates who wish to be considered for reappointment must also send a letter of interest by this date.

Letters of interest should include the member's length of service to the Rhode Island Bar Association (i.e., participation in Committees and positions held in those Committees; community service to the Bar Association and outside the Bar Association, and positions held outside the Bar Association). Testimonials and letters of recommendation are neither required nor encouraged. Direct and indirect informal contact by candidates or those wishing to address candidates' qualifications to members of the Nominating Committee is prohibited. Please send letters of interest to:

HOD Nominating Committee Chairperson
Rhode Island Bar Association
41 Sharpe Drive
Cranston, RI 02920

Or, you may send your letter of interest to Kathleen M. Bridge, Executive Director by fax: (401) 421-2703, or email: kbridge@ribar.com. The Nominating Committee welcomes letters of interest from candidates of diverse backgrounds in regard to race, color, religion, country of ancestral origin, handicap, age, sex, or sexual orientation.

There will be an open forum at the Bar Headquarters at a date in March, to be determined, at which candidates for the House of Delegates and for officer position(s)

may, but are not required to, appear before the Nominating Committee and further explain their candidacy. Candidates for officer positions and candidates for the House at large will be given up to ten minutes each to speak (or as determined by the Chair). Candidates who elect to address the Nominating Committee are encouraged to present their vision of how they would advance the mission of the Bar through their service in the office.

Any member planning to make a presentation at the open forum must inform Executive Director Kathleen Bridge, prior to the forum via email: kbridge@ribar.com or telephone: (401) 421-5740.

Pressure Doesn't Have to Turn Into Stress: Learn how to deal with stress by understanding that stress is not caused by external events or other people, but by one's reactions to them. Read the full article [here](#). (Harvard Business Review)

Have a valuable article or resource for our membership? Email Amanda Valentino at avalentino7@gmail.com to add it to next month's edition!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

LEGAL ASSISTANT RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CIVIL DIVISION/ENVIRONMENTAL & ENERGY UNIT

**PAY GRADE 8714 (\$43,228 – \$47,114)
Or commensurate with experience
January 17, 2023 – February 7, 2023**

About the Office of the Attorney General: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. Paralegals and administrative staff provide important support to the attorneys and to the Office. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's

attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division leads affirmative and defensive litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a range of regulatory duties. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Environment and Energy Unit: The Environment and Energy Unit within the Civil Division develops and leads high-impact, cutting-edge advocacy efforts in the environment and energy sectors, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials on environmental and energy-related issues; performs a range of functions, including litigation, public comment, policy development, and provides oversight with respect to state and federal agencies' regulatory actions and responsibilities. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed or threaten to harm the health of Rhode Islanders and/or the State's public trust resources, to defending state laws, the Unit's attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Duties/Responsibilities: The position offers a unique and challenging experience for a highly motivated person with significant opportunities for advancement. The office is seeking a legal assistant that will be responsible for paralegal/secretarial duties and offer assistance to the Civil Division and its attorneys. Primary responsibilities include preparation of legal documents and correspondence, monitoring regulatory dockets, maintaining multiple calendars and scheduling, entering data for case tracking programs, electronic filing with the Courts, preparing and maintaining case files, assisting with incoming mail and telephone calls and other related duties, as instructed.

Education/Experience/Special Requirements: Experience such as may have been gained through employment in a responsible legal assistant position or any combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent. Applicants must possess superior clerical and organizational skills, as well as the capacity to function at a high level in a demanding environment. Additionally, applicants must exhibit the ability to work in a supportive and professional manner with other support staff,

attorneys, and law enforcement agencies. Candidates must be computer literate with proficiency in Microsoft Word and Outlook.

If applying for position by submitting cover letter and resume via mail or email, no need to apply through online system.

How to Apply: Applicants should email or mail (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to succeed in this position, (2) resume, and (3) list of three references to:

Aida Crosson
Director of Administration
Office of the Attorney General
150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903
ACrosson@riag.ri.gov

Equal Opportunity Employer: The Attorney General's Office is stronger, more credible, and more capable when its employees bring diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to their work. The Office encourages all qualified applicants from all ethnic and racial backgrounds, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and persons with disabilities to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, disability, or covered veteran status.

Other Information: Finalists will be subject to a background investigation including reference checks. All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
HEALTH CARE AND INSURANCE ADVOCATE
CIVIL DIVISION
RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**PAY GRADE 8732 (\$80,315 – \$91,044) OR COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE
January 20, 2023 to February 10, 2023**

The Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General is seeking to fill a position within the Health Care Unit of the Public Protection Bureau of the Civil Division, which offers the opportunity to participate in setting the course for an expanded health care role for the

Office of Attorney General. This position includes the role of the Insurance Advocate, created to fulfill the Attorney General's statutory responsibilities pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-36-1 et seq and 27-36-19 and 27-36-20. In addition to supporting the work of the Health Care Unit, the responsibilities in this position include promoting public health by addressing health care payment systems and their effect on accessibility and delivery, advocating for the rights of consumers at hearings on health insurance rates held by the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner, working with experts to ensure affordability and quality metrics for regulated health insurance are being met and representing the Office of the Attorney General on committees and boards, among other functions.

About the Office: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division leads affirmative and defensive litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a range of regulatory duties. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Public Protection Bureau: The Public Protection Bureau has been recently created within the Civil Division of the Attorney General's office and is comprised of four units – Health Care, Consumer and Economic Justice, Environmental and Energy and Civil; and Community Rights. Each of these units affirmatively develops legal work and initiatives by using the legal authority of the Office of Attorney General to advance and protect dignity, quality of life, and equity for all Rhode Islanders. The Public Protection Bureau and each of its units also engage with community members and advocates to identify needed change and with thought partners to understand drivers of poverty and

inequities within existing systems. Litigation and other initiatives are chosen based on understanding where change is needed and the relationship of evident needs to larger drivers of inequity, and are prioritized by evaluating the potential for impact.

Health Care Unit: The mission of the Health Care Unit is to contribute to improving individual and community health, understanding that the health of Rhode Islanders requires access to the healthcare market as well as safe and healthy communities, homes, workplaces and schools, and working to make health care more accessible, affordable and of consistently high quality for Rhode Islanders by removing obstacles to care. Through the work of the Health Care Advocate and the Insurance Advocate, the Health Care Unit performs key regulatory oversight of significant hospital transactions and protects consumers against increasing health insurance rates and costs.

Duties and Opportunities: The Insurance Advocate collaborates with the Health Care Advocate and with other attorneys in the Public Protection Bureau in identifying and investigating potential cases, fulfilling regulatory responsibilities in health care, prioritizing Health Care Unit affirmative work, case development, pre-trial litigation, negotiation, written and oral argument, trial work, and appeals. This will include participation in the following: Identify, support and engage in litigation and other initiatives, including with attorneys in the Civil Division who are collaborating on Health Care Unit work; Have or develop a deep knowledge of health care payment systems, public and private, and the role of state-regulated health insurance within those systems; Identify ways in which the health care payment systems in Rhode Island can best serve communities and ways in which those systems could be improved; Maintain communication with community members to respond to constituent complaints related to health insurance, identify need, understand impact and report about work, working with the Public Information Officer and the Director of Community Engagement; Advocate for continued affordability and to educate the public about the drivers of increasing costs of health care before the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner; Draft the Attorney General's public comments on rate requests, including for Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans, to advocate for continued affordability and to educate the public about the drivers of increasing costs of health care; Review proposed and enacted insurance-related legislation and regulations; Maintain standards of quality legal work; and Along with leadership in the RIAG, work with agency partners throughout State government including service on government bodies in an ex officio capacity. Opportunities for Special Assistant Attorneys General in the Civil Division also include attending National Association of Attorney General trainings and conferences throughout the country, serving on state, local, federal, and/or non-profit boards, commissions, working groups, and/or task forces as a designee of the Attorney

General, providing substantive expertise to legislative or policy initiatives, supervising student interns as part of the Office's legal internship program.

Eligibility: The successful applicant must have a law degree from an accredited law school and be an active member in good standing of the bar of any jurisdiction. If not a member of the Rhode Island Bar, the candidate must be eligible for admission to the Rhode Island bar and, if necessary, be willing to take the Rhode Island bar examination.

Qualifications: Strong candidates will have a demonstrated commitment to public interest law. Litigation experience is preferred. While knowledge of law pertaining to health care, investigations, and/or regulation of transactions is preferred, it is not necessary if a candidate has a demonstrated ability to learn new areas of law and apply that knowledge effectively and creatively. The position will require an ability to work in teams, an interest in creative legal thinking and a demonstrated ability to both envision and build on an organizational level. Candidates must have strong written skills and possess the capacity to function in a demanding environment. Ability to work with other state government employees and communicate with members of the public is a must. The applicant should bring innovative thinking to the ways in which the Office of the Attorney General can consistently and increasingly meet the needs of Rhode Island residents.

If applying for position by submitting cover letter and resume via mail or email, there is no need to also apply through online system.

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to succeed in this position, (2) resume, (3) list of three references, and (4) a writing sample to:

Aida Crosson
Director of Administration
Office of the Attorney General
150 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
[**Acrosson@riag.ri.gov**](mailto:Acrosson@riag.ri.gov)

Equal Opportunity Employer: The Attorney General's Office is stronger, more credible, and more capable when its employees bring diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to their work. The Office encourages all qualified applicants from all ethnic and racial backgrounds, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and persons with disabilities to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color,

sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, disability, or covered veteran status.

Other Information: Finalists will be subject to a full background investigation including reference checks. All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation, receipt of letters of good standing from each Bar in which the applicant is a member, and membership in good standing with, or eligibility for admission into, the Rhode Island Bar. In certain limited circumstances, applicants may be hired pending temporary or full admission.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL DIVISION – GOVERNMENT LITIGATION
RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

PAYGRADE 8728 (\$68,921 - \$77,944) OR COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE

January 20, 2023 – February 10, 2023

The Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General is seeking a candidate for a Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) position within the Civil Division. The attorney in this position will be expected to work in the Government Litigation Bureau.

About the Office of the Attorney General: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division defends the State through its Government Litigation Bureau and brings litigation and other initiatives through the Public Protection Bureau. Within the Civil Division, the Government Litigation Bureau, leads litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a

range of regulatory duties. This also includes the Attorney General's Open Government Unit which is responsible for helping to ensure government in Rhode Island is carried out in an open and transparent manner. The Public Protection Bureau, recently created within the Civil Division, is comprised of four units – Healthcare, Consumer and Economic Justice, Environmental and Energy, and Civil; and Community Rights. Each of these units affirmatively develops legal work and initiatives by using the legal authority of the Office of Attorney General to advance and protect dignity, quality of life and equity for all Rhode Islanders. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Duties and Opportunities: For this position, a SAAG in the Civil Division, working with colleagues and senior attorneys, will be responsible for case development, pre-trial litigation, negotiation, written and oral argument, regulatory and agency advising and trial work. The applicant will be expected to carry a full civil litigation caseload in the capacity as first and as second chair, and be expected to draft, file, and argue motions/legal memoranda, as well as litigate, in state and federal court on behalf of the state of Rhode Island, its agencies, and its officers or employees. Cases range from straightforward negligence claims to complex litigation and Constitutional claims. This position may also support the Attorney General's Open Government Unit. Opportunities for Special Assistant Attorneys General in the Civil Division are offered to ensure professional growth and development. These opportunities include attending National Association of Attorney General trainings and conferences throughout the country, serving on state, local, federal, and/or non-profit boards, commissions, working groups, and/or task forces as a designee of the Attorney General, providing substantive expertise to legislative or policy initiatives, and supervising student interns as part of the Office's legal internship program.

Eligibility: The successful applicant must have a law degree from an accredited law school and be an active member in good standing of the bar of any jurisdiction. If not a member of the Rhode Island Bar, the candidate must be eligible for admission to the Rhode Island bar and, if necessary, be willing to take the Rhode Island bar examination.

Qualifications: Candidates with three to five years of litigation experience are preferred. Candidates must have strong written/oral advocacy and negotiating skills and possess the capacity to function in a sometimes-high stress, demanding environment. Applicant must work well independently and as part of a team, including with other attorneys and

support staff. Ability to work with other state government employees and communicate with members of the public is a must. Litigation experience in both state and federal court is preferred. The applicant should bring innovative thinking to the ways in which the Office of the Attorney General can consistently and increasingly meet the needs of Rhode Island residents. If applying for position by submitting cover letter and resume via mail or email, no need to apply through online system.

Application Process: Applicants should submit a (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to succeed in this position, (2) resume, (3) list of three references, and (4) a writing sample to:

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Equal Opportunity Employer: The Attorney General's Office is stronger, more credible, and more capable when its employees bring diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to their work. The Office encourages all qualified applicants from all ethnic and racial backgrounds, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and persons with disabilities to apply. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, disability, or covered veteran status.

Other Information: Finalists will be subject to a full background investigation including reference checks. All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation, receipt of letters of good standing from each Bar in which the applicant is a member, and membership in good standing with, or eligibility for admission into, the Rhode Island Bar. In certain limited circumstances, applicants may be hired pending temporary or full admission.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL DIVISION – GOVERNMENT LITIGATION
RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

PAYGRADE 8728 (\$68,921 - \$77,944) OR COMMENSURATE WITH EXPERIENCE

**January 20,2023 – February 17, 20223
POSITION OPENING SEPTEMBER 2023**

The Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General is seeking a candidate for a Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) position within the Civil Division. The attorney in this position will be expected to work in the Government Litigation Bureau.

About the Office: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division defends the State through its Government Litigation Bureau and brings litigation and other initiatives through the Public Protection Bureau. Within the Civil Division, the Government Litigation Bureau, leads litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a range of regulatory duties. This also includes the Attorney General's Open Government Unit which is responsible for helping to ensure government in Rhode Island is carried out in an open and transparent manner. The Public Protection Bureau, recently created within the Civil Division, is comprised of four units – Healthcare, Consumer and Economic Justice, Environmental and Energy, and Civil; and Community Rights. Each of these units affirmatively develops legal work and initiatives by using the legal authority of the Office of Attorney General to advance and protect dignity, quality of life and equity for all Rhode Islanders. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to

defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Duties and Opportunities: For this position, a SAAG in the Civil Division working with colleagues and senior attorneys will be responsible for case development, pre-trial litigation, negotiation, written and oral argument, regulatory and agency advising and trial work. The applicant will be expected to carry a full civil litigation caseload in the capacity as first and as second chair, and be expected to draft, file, and argue motions/legal memoranda, as well as litigate, in state and federal court on behalf of the state of Rhode Island, its agencies, and its officers or employees. Cases range from straightforward negligence claims to complex litigation and Constitutional claims. This position may also support the Attorney General's Open Government Unit.

Opportunities for Special Assistant Attorneys General in the Civil Division are offered to ensure professional growth and development. These opportunities include attending National Association of Attorney General trainings and conferences throughout the country, serving on state, local, federal, and/or non-profit boards, commissions, working groups, and/or task forces as a designee of the Attorney General, providing substantive expertise to legislative or policy initiatives, and supervising student interns as part of the Office's legal internship program.

Eligibility: The successful applicant must have a law degree from an accredited law school and be an active member in good standing of the bar of any jurisdiction. If not a member of the Rhode Island Bar, the candidate must be eligible for admission to the Rhode Island bar and, if necessary, be willing to take the Rhode Island bar examination.

Qualifications: Candidates with three to five years of litigation experience are preferred. Candidates must have strong written/oral advocacy and negotiating skills and possess the capacity to function in a sometimes-high stress, demanding environment. Applicant must work well independently and as part of a team, including with other attorneys and support staff. Ability to work with other state government employees and communicate with members of the public is a must. Litigation experience in both state and federal court is preferred. The applicant should bring innovative thinking to the ways in which the Office of the Attorney General can consistently and increasingly meet the needs of Rhode Island residents. If applying for position by submitting cover letter and resume via mail or email, there is no need to also apply through online system.

Application Process: Applicants should submit a (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to

succeed in this position, (2) resume, (3) list of three references, and (4) a writing sample to:

Aida Crosson
Director of Administration
Office of the Attorney General
150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903
Acrosson@riag.ri.gov

Equal Opportunity Employer: The Attorney General's Office is stronger, more credible, and more capable when its attorneys bring diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to their work. The Office encourages all qualified applicants from all ethnic and racial backgrounds, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and persons with disabilities to apply.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, disability, or covered veteran status.

Other Information: Finalists will be subject to a full background investigation including reference checks. All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation, receipt of letters of good standing from each Bar in which the applicant is a member, and membership in good standing with, or admission into, the Rhode Island Bar. In certain limited circumstances, applicants may be hired pending temporary or full admission.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL DIVISION, CONSUMER; ECONOMIC JUSTICE UNIT
RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**Paygrade – 8728 (\$68,921 – \$77,944)
Or commensurate with experience
January 27, 2023 – February 17, 2023**

The Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General is seeking a candidate for a Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) position within the Public Protection Bureau of the Civil Division.

About the Office of the Attorney General: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure

the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division leads affirmative and defensive litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a range of regulatory duties. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Public Protection Bureau: The Public Protection Bureau has been recently created within the Civil Division of the Attorney General's office and is comprised of four units – Healthcare, Consumer and Economic Justice, Environmental and Energy and Civil; Community Rights. Each of these units affirmatively develops legal work and initiatives by using the legal authority of the Office of Attorney General to advance and protect dignity, quality of life, and equity for all Rhode Islanders. The Public Protection Bureau and each of its units also engage with community members and advocates to identify needed change and with thought partners to understand drivers of poverty and inequities within existing systems. Litigation and other initiatives are chosen based on understanding where change is needed and the relationship of evident needs to larger drivers of inequity and are prioritized by evaluating the potential for impact.

Consumer and Economic Justice Unit: The mission of the Consumer and Economic Justice Unit is to protect Rhode Islanders and Rhode Island businesses from unfair, deceptive, fraudulent, or anti-competitive trade practices. Unit staff has the ability to make a direct and meaningful impact on their local community while working in an interesting and evolving area of the law. The Unit identifies business practices that negatively impact Rhode Islanders, investigates, and when necessary, takes appropriate enforcement action, including filing civil suit. The Unit is also an advocate for systemic legal, regulatory and industry change that will benefit consumers, workers, and students. The Unit handles complex, fast-moving, and high-stakes matters on behalf of the State ranging from multi-state antitrust lawsuits against big tech to false advertising

claims against businesses preying on Rhode Islanders. This work utilizes a broad range of legal tools across industries working on timely and impactful issues. The Unit is comprised of attorneys and non-attorney investigators and has direct responsibility for educating consumers, fielding consumer complaints, and responding directly to constituents. The Unit maintains offices in Cranston and Providence.

Duties and Opportunities: For this position, a Special Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Division working with colleagues and senior attorneys within the Consumer and Economic Justice Unit will be responsible for developing, leading, and supporting litigation and other initiatives calculated to ensure fairness and equity in Rhode Island's economy. The SAAG in this position will be responsible for identifying appropriate novel areas of investigation, identifying local, national, and regional trends in economic exploitation, leading investigations of potential cases, prioritizing Consumer work, case development, pre-trial litigation, negotiation, written and oral argument, trial work, and appeals. Responsibilities also include close work with consumers, investigators, community advocates, federal enforcers, and other Attorney General offices on multistate litigation. This work may be in one or more of a broad range of civil areas including: administrative law, antitrust, consumer and deceptive practices, data protection; privacy and charitable trusts. The applicant will be expected to carry a full civil litigation caseload in the capacity as first chair, and be expected to draft, file, and argue motions/legal memoranda, as well as litigate, in state and federal court. Opportunities for Special Assistant Attorneys General in the Civil Division are offered to ensure professional growth and development. Opportunities include attending National Association of Attorney General trainings and conferences throughout the country, serving on state, local, federal, and/or non-profit boards, commissions, working groups, and/or task forces as a designee of the Attorney General, providing substantive expertise to legislative or policy initiatives, and supervising student interns as part of the Office's legal internship program.

Eligibility: The successful applicant must have a law degree from an accredited law school and be an active member in good standing of the bar of any jurisdiction. If not a member of the Rhode Island Bar, the candidate must be eligible for admission to the Rhode Island bar and prepared to sit for the bar exam or obtain admission through score transfer.

Qualifications: At least three years of litigation experience is preferred but not mandatory. Strong candidates will have a demonstrated commitment to public interest law. Candidates must have strong written/oral advocacy and negotiating skills and possess the capacity to function in a sometimes-high stress, demanding environment. Applicant must work well independently and as part of a team, including with other

attorneys, investigators, and support staff. Ability to work with other state government employees and communicate with members of the public is a must. Litigation experience in both state and federal court is preferred. The applicant should bring innovative thinking to the ways in which the Office of the Attorney General can consistently and increasingly meet the needs of Rhode Island residents. If applying for position via mail or email, there is no need to also apply through online system.

Application Process: Applicants should submit a (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to succeed in this position, (2) resume, (3) list of three references, and (4) a writing sample to:

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Other Information: Finalists will be subject to a full background investigation including reference checks. All offers of employment are contingent upon successful completion of the background investigation, receipt of letters of good standing from each Bar in which the applicant is a member, and membership in good standing with, or admission into, the Rhode Island Bar. In certain limited circumstances, applicants may be hired pending temporary or full admission.

Social Security's General Counsel is Hiring Bankruptcy Litigation Attorneys (Remote): The Social Security Administration's Office of the General Counsel seeks bankruptcy litigation attorneys throughout the U.S. for its Bankruptcy Branch. WHY SSA: Social Security touches the lives of millions, providing vital services and a social safety net through disability, retirement, and survivor benefits. Our Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is a modern public service law office with a highly-skilled,

engaged, and diverse workforce. We strategically manage a large national workload through effective collaboration & coordination. We offer the opportunity to handle meaningful and challenging legal work, while earning a competitive salary (plus locality pay), a flexible work schedule, and telework. Employees may be eligible to work remotely from home.

Why OGC's Bankruptcy Branch: OGC's Office of Program Litigation, Bankruptcy Branch serves an integral role in SSA's program integrity and anti-fraud efforts. Bankruptcy attorneys contribute to SSA's mission to serve the American public by helping to protect SSA's funds. When individuals who fraudulently obtain benefits seek to have their overpayments discharged in the bankruptcy courts, SSA's bankruptcy attorneys pursue adversary actions against such individuals to ensure their overpayment debts are preserved and can be recovered. More information about SSA's fraud prevention efforts can be found [here](#). Bankruptcy attorneys have significant responsibility for their own cases, which may include drafting pleadings and briefs, conducting discovery, and participating in hearings and trials.

How to Apply: Submit your application to: OGC.Bankruptcy.Recruitment@ssa.gov. Your application must include cover letter, resume, law school transcript, proof of active bar membership, list of professional references, and legal writing sample (max. 15 pages). Veterans: please indicate veteran's preference in your cover letter and submit a copy of your DD-214 or SF-15.

Salary Information: Base Salary: \$59,319 - \$109,908 (depending on grade and step) plus locality pay based on geographic area. Please refer to General Schedule (opm.gov) for more information.

Are you hiring? Know someone looking for a top-notch applicant for an open position? Email Amanda Valentino at avalentino7@gmail.com to add an opportunity to our employment section!

MONTHLY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

The Monthly Member Spotlight is your cheat sheet to the incredible women who are your fellow RIWBA members. Keep an eye on your inbox, because you might be next!

This month, we are delighted to spotlight **LISA KRESGE, PARTNER** at **BRENNAN RECUPERO**. Read on to learn more about **LISA!**



Any good work from home tips?

Let your dog or other furry friend be your officemate—it's good for the soul.

What was your first paying job?

Waitress at Friendly's (I can still make a pretty good hot fudge sundae.)

What would you sing at karaoke night?

I Want You Back by the Jackson 5

Can you share something about yourself that others would be surprised to learn?

I was recently elected as an equity partner at my firm.

Where is your favorite place in the world?

Maui.

What was the best concert/play you ever attended?

The Chicks last Summer at the Xfinity Center.

What is the last book you read?

Dolly: My Life and Other Unfinished Business by Dolly Parton.

In fifty words or fewer, describe what you want other RIWBA members to know about your practice.

I am a partner at Brennan Recupero. I represent businesses and financial institutions in transactions and commercial litigation. I handle corporate restructuring and creditors' rights matters, representing parties-in-interest in bankruptcy and receivership cases. I routinely counsel commercial lenders with secured and unsecured credit facilities, asset-based financing and loan workouts.

NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE:

Have something you would like to see in the next newsletter? Let us know by **February 24, 2023** to include it in the latest edition. And as always, thanks for reading!

Amanda Valentino, Cassandra Feeney, Lindsay Lieberman, Jessica Rider, and Mylene L. Cathcart

RIWBA Newsletter Committee