

THE NEW YORK CRIMINAL BAR ASSOCIATION

An Affiliate of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers



NYCBA Members Newsletter

Vol. 1, No. 3

December 2003

Greetings. This is the third issue of our new monthly newsletter - and we hope you will continue to send us your comments and suggestions about what you would like to see included each month.

President's Message:

I have just three short points for our Members as the year 2003 draws to a close. First, thank you to Scott Tulman, Peter G. Schmidt, and Michael Bachrach for their magnificent work in putting the monthly newsletter together. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Second, as a reminder, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York began Electronic Case Filing (ECF) on December 1st. Click [here](#) for more information.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the New York Criminal Bar Association, I hope all of you enjoy this holiday season and have a happy and healthy new year.

Upcoming Events:

December 9, 2003: Annual Winter Holiday Party

Don't forget. Our annual holiday party will be held on Tuesday, December 9,

2003, at 6 PM, at SPQR Restaurant, 133 Mulberry Street, New York, New York in "Little Italy" - and we still have room for a few more guests. If you want to reserve tickets, call Len Levenson, our Treasurer, at (212) 732-0522.

This event is always fun and a great way to kick off the holidays and renew contacts with your fellow Members and the many judges who will be attending. This year our special honoree is the **Honorable Bernard J. Fried**. **So, call today and reserve your tickets.**

Forthcoming NYCBA CLE Seminar

We are still making plans to hold a CLE seminar in the near future which will examine the latest developments in legal resources that are on the Internet for the New York Criminal Defense Attorney - and we hope to provide you with more details right after the holidays.

Using our own Web site as the model, we will give participants a comprehensive overview of the many new and indispensable features that are available on the Internet. The seminar will be held in the Courtroom of the Future at the United States Supreme Court Courthouse, at 60 Centre Street, where you will have access to your own computer screen to follow our panel of experts as they guide you through practical examples of how to use some of the Internet's features to assist you in your practice.

Additional Events/CLEs of Note:

On **Friday, December 5, 2003**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers will be hosting a CLE Seminar entitled "*Grand Jury Update*" at St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St., Brooklyn, N. Y. The price is \$70 for members and \$80 for non-members. For more information call Patricia Marcus at (212) 532-4434.

On **Monday, December 8, 2003**, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the New York County Lawyers' Association will be hosting a free forum entitled, "*Women in Criminal Law: Program For and About Professionals: Does gender matter and should it?*" For more information or to register call (212) 267-6646 or go to <http://www.nycla.org>

Web Site Features:

While we make changes on the NYCBA Web site on an almost daily basis, we plan

to use this space each month to highlight some of the most significant new features that should be of interest to our Members. This month we feature the following items:

Arraignment Numbers:

Arraignment Telephone Numbers	
(Attorney Numbers)	
New York County:	
Central Booking:	(212) 374-3942, 3921, 3838
Intake:	(212) 335-9598
Arraignments Phone:	(212) 374-3126
Arraignments Fax:	(212) 374-1846
Kings County:	
Central Booking:	(718) 875-6303
Intake:	(718) 250-3500
Arraignments Phone:	(718) 243-2545
Arraignments Fax:	(718) 643-3303
Bronx County:	
Central Booking:	(718) 590-2804
Intake:	(718) 590-6890, 6892
Arraignments Phone:	(718) 590-2886, 2887, 2888
Arraignments Fax:	(718) 537-5165
Queens County:	
Central Booking:	(718) 286-6873
Intake:	(718) 286-6874
Arraignments Phone:	(718) 520-1985, 1995
Arraignments Fax:	(718) 520-6975, 7521

Computer Tips

Under the [Computer Tips](#) section of our Web site, we maintain a number of articles and resources designed to help you improve your computer and Internet skills. For example, we recently posted the following item:

Running out of disk space - or - need a fast and efficient way to back-up your files? In either case, the cost of a new 120 gigabyte hard drive is now less than \$120 - and installing a second hard drive is not only easy, it may save all your data (and your years of hard work) in case your hard drive ever crashes. So if you don't want to risk losing years of work, purchase and install a second hard drive. Just follow the instructions in the article entitled "[How Do I Upgrade My Hard Drive?](#)"

Court Records:

We believe that our Web site contains the most comprehensive and current listing of Internet resources that are available to criminal defense attorneys in the Metropolitan area. For example, under [Investigative Tools - Court Appearances](#), we have included a number of useful resources, including the WebCrims Court Appearance link. As its name implies, WebCrims not only helps you to keep track of scheduled appearances in criminal cases, it contains resources to alert you to new filings that have been made with the Court clerks and it allows you to search by a defendant's name for upcoming court appearances in criminal cases.

WebCrims canvases 21 New York downstate courts, including the Supreme Courts and the Criminal Courts in New York, Bronx, Queens, Kings and Richmond counties, and the County and District courts in Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester counties.

Criminal Records:

Under [Investigative Tools - Criminal Records](#) we maintain a number of valuable links that every criminal practitioner should know about; and we particularly direct your attention to three of those links: (1) New York State Department of Correctional Services Inmate Population Information Search ("DOCS Inmate Locator"); (2) the Federal Bureau of Prisons Inmate Locator

("Federal Inmate Locator"); and (3) Accurint - all of which can help you track down potential witnesses or locate a missing client.

Both the DOCS Inmate Locator (for NY State inmates) and the Federal Inmate Locator (for Federal Inmates) allow you to search by an inmate's name or identification number to find an inmate's current location, pedigree information and projected or earliest release dates. DOCS Inmate Locator also provides a state inmate's disposition and sentence as well as several useful dates such as his/her expected parole hearing. The Federal Inmate Locator does not include an inmate's disposition or sentence, but such information can be found on his/her docket sheet, which is easily accessible at the Pacer website at <http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/>.

Finally, [Accurint](#) (a commercial site) allows for highly comprehensive investigative searches for any person's current and previous addresses, telephone numbers, social security number, date of birth and date of death, as well as identifying and providing similar information on that same person's family members, neighbors and possible associates. This is an excellent and reasonably priced investigative tool, particularly when trying to track down potential witnesses. The site also allows you to search for other information such as tax liens, bankruptcy filing, and, to a limited extent, criminal records.

Translation and Translator Resources:

The NYCBA web site contains some very useful resources for attorneys looking for translation and translator services. For example, under [Investigative Tools - Interpreters](#), we maintain a constantly updated listing of interpreters in the Metropolitan New York City area. So far we have included translators who are proficient in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, Polish, Russian and Spanish. The list not only provides the contact information for the various interpreters in our area, it also includes the names of the attorneys who have recommended each interpreter. We hope that, over time, you will help us update the information on this list by sending your recommendations to us by e-mail.

Lastly, don't forget: this is your Newsletter. We can only improve its content and its quality if you let us know what you like and what you don't like - or if you find any broken links. So, please stay in touch and send us all of your comments and suggestions.

Happy Holidays!!

Yours for a better defense,

Harvey Fishbein
President

Internet and Newsletter Committee:

Harvey Fishbein
Scott Tulman
Peter G. Schmidt
Michael K. Bachrach