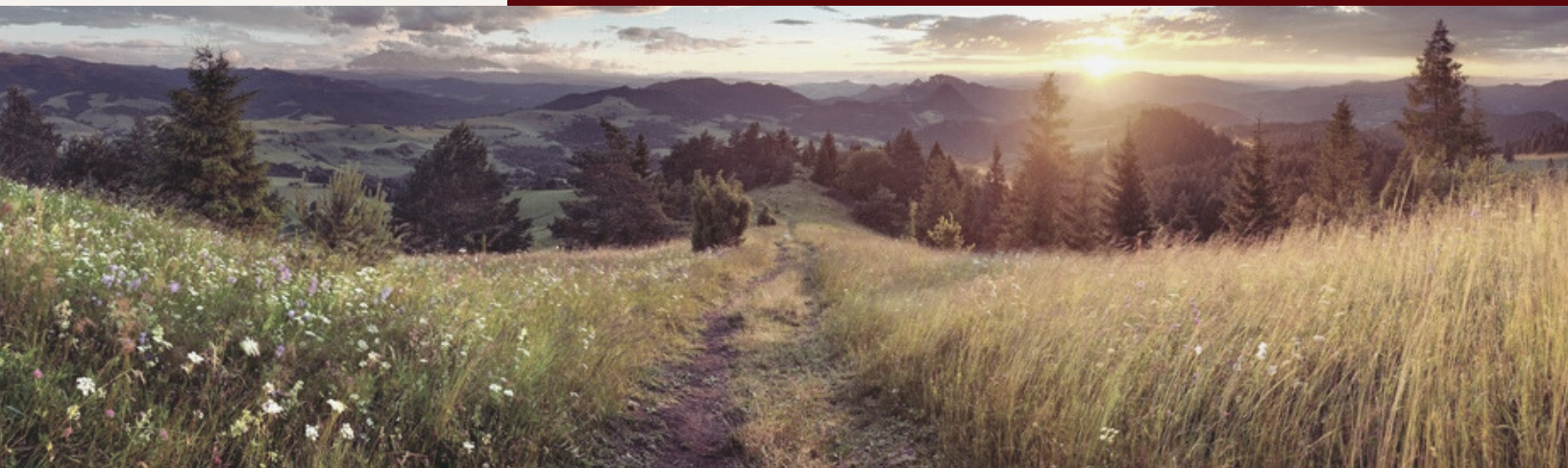




THE ADVOCATE

Newsletter of the Advocates Society,
an Association of Polish-American Attorneys



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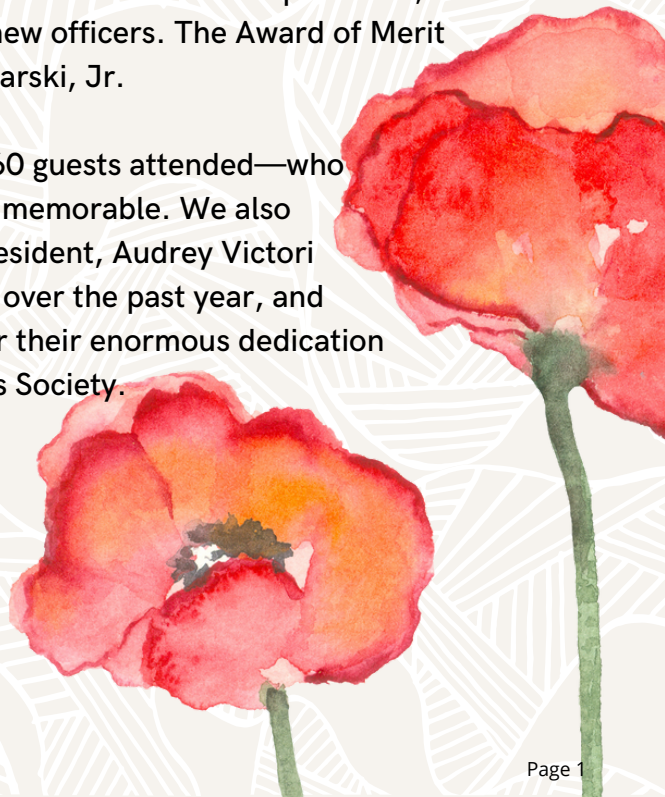
The Management of this Society is vested in the Board of Governors, consisting of the Officers, Chairs of Standing Committees and Past Presidents. The Board shall advise, guide, direct and determine the overall policy of the Society.

Installation & Award of Merit Dinner

On Thursday, February 16th, the Advocates Society held its 2023 Annual Installation & Award of Merit Dinner at The Metropolitan Club in Chicago. Past President L. Steven Rakowski was the Master of Ceremonies. As tradition, Amanda Zink, Past President Michael Zink's wife, sang the Polish and American national anthems. Hon. Timothy C. Evans administered the oath of office to our new president, Ann Melichar, and the incoming new officers. The Award of Merit was presented to John J. Pikarski, Jr.

We thank everyone—over 160 guests attended—who made the Installation Dinner memorable. We also thank the Immediate Past President, Audrey Victori Cosgrove, for her leadership over the past year, and to the 2022-2023 officers for their enormous dedication and support of the Advocates Society.

We send a heartfelt congratulations to the 2023-2024 Officers!



March 2023

1st - Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

6th - Pulaski Day (Polish Museum
of America. TBD.)

9th - General Meeting and CLE;
6:30pm Cocktails and Networking;
7pm Meeting; (Copernicus, 5216 W
Lawrence, Chicago)

April 2023

4th - Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

20th - General Meeting and CLE;
6:30pm Cocktails and Networking;
7pm Meeting; (Copernicus, 5216 W
Lawrence, Chicago)

May 2023

2nd - Board Meeting; 6:30pm
Cocktails/Networking; 7pm
Meeting (Zoom)

6th - Polish Constitution Day
Parade

11th - General Meeting and CLE;
6:30pm Cocktails and Networking;
7pm Meeting; (Copernicus, 5216 W
Lawrence, Chicago)



Mazury Province, Northeastern Region in POLAND

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Contributors

The Joint Public Relations and
Newsletter Committee manages,
edits, and coordinates the
production of the newsletter.
Committee includes:

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Michele Gemske
Ann L. Melichar
Pamela Menaker
Julia Jensen Smolka
Joan Smuda
Jessica Wiczorkiewicz

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Advocates' Installation & Award of Merit Dinner

FEBRUARY 16, 2023



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Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 © Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 © Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Advocates' Installation & Award of Merit Dinner

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Congratulations!



Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 © Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Advocates Society, F



John J. Pikarski, Jr., with his wife Sandra Pikarski



Photo by Mark Dobrzycki 2/16/23

THE 2023 AWARD OF
MERIT HONOREE

John J. Pikarski, Jr.

Advocates' Installation & Award of Merit Dinner

FEBRUARY 16, 2023



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Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Advocates Society, February 16, 2023 Photo by Mark Dobrzycki



Event Highlights



*The Advocates' Annual
Holiday Party*





Advocates Society
Holiday Party
and General Meeting
COPERNICUS ANNEX
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM



Event Highlights



Advocates Society - January 2023, Copernicus Center ©Photo by Mark C. Zlotycki
Presenter Hon. Jennifer L. Johnson

January 18th General Meeting: CLE on Changes in the Law 2022 Edition, Presented by Hon. Jennifer L. Johnson

The Advocates' General Meeting was held on January 18, 2023, at the Copernicus Center. The evening included networking, delicious Polish food and an informative CLE.

Hon. Jennifer L. Johnson of the 22nd Judicial Court in McHenry County presented a CLE on the Changes in the Law, 2022 Edition. The CLE was an informative and entertaining look at the changes in Illinois Law for 2023. There was also a presentation on hand from the Scholarship Committee. (continued)



CLE Presenters NEEDED

If you would like to present as a CLE Speaker, please let us know! CLE's are offered throughout the year at General Meetings. If you have suggestions on topics to cover or presenters, please email us at

Advocatessociety@gmail.com



Event Highlights

January 18th General Meeting: Scholarships Awarded to Law Students



Participants of the General Meeting

The Scholarship Committee presented the awards to four law students. The scholarship is funded through the Polish American Advocates Scholarship Foundation ("Foundation"). This year, the scholarships totaled \$12,000 and were awarded to qualified law students of Polish descent. Students were evaluated based upon academic success, financial need, and involvement in the Polish American community. Fellow Advocates Regina Rathnau, chair of the Foundation, and Margo Webb, Board member of the Foundation, reviewed the incoming applications and interviewed the applicants.



Past President and Advocate Audrey V. Cosgrove

With impressive credentials and backgrounds, all applicants demonstrate the drive and tenacity typical of the members of the Polish community. Despite significant adversity, all of them ambitiously pursuing their goals, excelled academically. They all supported themselves, working in various capacities during law school and over the summer.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Scholarship Dinner last September and contributed toward this cause. We applaud your generosity and your major influence on these students' lives. *(continued)*



Event Highlights

January 18th General Meeting: Scholarships Awarded to Law Students

Four Law Student Scholarship Recipients:

Tom Bacharz

Current 2L at the University of Illinois of Chicago School of Law interested in working for the State's Attorney's Office upon graduation. He is a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship and having received awards and recognition at several Moot Court competitions, he is currently preparing to compete in the National Moot Court Competition organized by New York City Bar Association.

David Blondin

Current 3L at DePaul University. Interested in tax law, he plans to pursue a career in tax litigation, ideally with the Internal Revenue Service. He has been nominated to study tax and business law in Vienna (Austria) this semester and is currently living abroad.



(From left to right) Advocate Margo Webb, Student Advocates Jessica Lapczynska, Camilla Mroczkowski, and Tom Bacharz, and Past President Regina Rathnau

Jessica Lapczynska

Current 2L at the University of Illinois of Chicago School of Law interested in pursuing family law after graduation. She is ranked in the top 20% of her class and is currently externing with Honorable Judge Powers in the Domestic Relations Division.

Camilla Mroczkowski

Current 3L student at DePaul University interested in immigration law. Ranked in the top 10% of her class this fall, she's involved with the school's Asylum Clinic and her article will be published in the DePaul Journal of Social Studies.



Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Attorney Alon Stein*

To acquaint readers better with Members of the Advocate Society, we spotlight a Member in each issue. In this issue, we feature a Question and Answer with Alon Stein who is in private practice and serves on the Board as the Historian. Alon is the founder of Stein Law Offices in Northbrook, Illinois, and is a commercial litigator. He represents businesses in the Chicagoland area and in Wisconsin. Alon is also Of Counsel to the law firms of Miller Berger, LLC and Hoepfner Wagner & Evans LLP.



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

I am a member of the Advocates Society because all four of my grandparents' families were from Poland. That is a major part of my heritage, and I am proud of it. I enjoy going to Advocates meetings and speaking to my fellow Advocates Society members. When I go to meetings, I know that I will be with great people, enjoy great food and often learn a lot from a quality CLE.

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as an attorney.

I have a small law practice (Stein Law Offices) where I represent a lot of small and medium sized businesses in mostly commercial litigation matters. Being a member of the Advocates Society empowers me to bounce ideas off of other members in the same way that I did when I worked at larger law firms. This is a great benefit.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

I will be the Historian for the Advocates Society this year, which means that I will share responsibility for a lot of the CLE programming for the Advocates Society. I am looking forward to some quality CLEs and to seeing my friends at the Advocates Society meetings. Professionally, I hope to continue to provide quality legal services to my clients in Illinois and Wisconsin. Personally, I am looking forward to being able to spend quality time with my wife and family at my two sons' baseball games. I will be sponsoring their baseball teams for another season.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

I love to travel, and I especially like to travel during off-peak time periods. One of my most memorable trips was a visit to Krakow in the dead of winter. It was really cold, but that made the food and beer taste better!



Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Attorney Artur Zadrozny*

To acquaint readers better with Members of the Advocate Society, we spotlight a Member in each issue. In this issue, we feature a Question and Answer with Artur Zadrozny, a lawyer in private practice and also serves as Des Plaines 4th Ward Alderman.



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

I am a member of the Advocate Society because I was born in Poland and I want to promote and preserve Polish tradition and customs. By joining the Advocates, I am able to network with other legal professionals, stay up-to-date with the latest legal developments, and access resources to help me provide better legal services to my clients. As a member of the Advocates, I use my legal expertise to help members of the Polish community facing legal problems. By leveraging my legal knowledge and experience, I can make a positive impact on the lives of many people in my community who might otherwise be unable to access legal support.

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as an attorney.

I believe that I am a better attorney by being a member of the Advocates Society because I can turn to my colleagues here if I need help with legal issues. Having that support allows me to better serve my clients and tackle problems that I may have otherwise avoided.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

Personally, I am looking forward to celebrating my oldest daughter's First Communion in May. I also look forward to spending more time with my family on outdoor vacations. Professionally, I am looking to grow my real estate law practice, attracting new clients and providing a wide range of services. As candidate for reelection as Des Plaines 4th Ward Alderman, I hope to continue using my legal expertise also in service to the City of Des Plaines.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

I practiced Kyokushin Karate from grade school through college. Not only was it a great way to keep in shape but also it taught me discipline, focus and self-confidence. I love photography and take my camera wherever I go. One of my favorite pictures is a portrait of my daughter sitting on my office desk.



Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Student Camilla Mroczkowski*

To acquaint readers better with Members of the Advocate Society, we spotlight a Member in each issue. In this newsletter issue, Camilla Mroczkowski is featured as a Law Student Member. Camilla is currently a 3L at DePaul University College of Law.

Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

During their 1L year, law students are strongly encouraged to join a bar association for potential networking opportunities and to find ways to get involved in the legal community. I knew if I joined a bar association, I wanted it to be one that I had a meaningful connection to and that would motivate me to be an active member. As the daughter of Polish immigrants and the first person in my family to attend law school in the United States, joining the Advocates Society just made sense. It is an organization that makes me feel like I belong because of my Polish identity and background.



Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as a law student and future attorney.

Every third Saturday of the month, the Advocates Society hosts a pro bono clinic called the Amicus Poloniae Legal Clinic. I have volunteered there frequently throughout my law school career, and, thanks to my Polish language fluency, I have had the opportunity to interpret for Polish-speaking clients. This, itself, was empowering because anyone who has done any sort of interpreting knows that interpreting “legalese” language feels like a whole other world and requires its own skillset. In addition to translations, I was also able to incorporate skills and lessons I learned from my participation in the DePaul Asylum and Immigration Clinic. This experience overall made me feel extremely empowered because anytime I do work like this, I think of my dad. I remember how much he went through in his own immigration journey, having been denied asylum and having been in deportation proceedings. I think about what that version of himself would feel seeing his daughter be so close to becoming an immigration attorney and how empowering that is, in and of itself.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

Professionally, I am looking forward to graduating in May 2023. For me, the journey has been unique because it is my sixth and final year at DePaul University. I joined the DePaul 3+3 BA/JD program when I was eighteen years old, so it’s bittersweet to see this journey finally come to an end. Personally, I am excited to travel after the BAR exam. My family knows I’ve been wanting to travel to Italy my whole life, so I hope this dream will become a reality. I hope to visit Poland, too, to visit my family.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

My go-to fun fact about myself is that I was born and raised in Roswell, New Mexico, which many people believe to be the site of an alleged 1947 UFO crash. I loved growing up in Roswell and everyone who knows me knows that I miss New Mexico every single day. If you’re ever interested in visiting the southwest, I highly recommend visiting White Sands outside of Las Cruces, New Mexico, or Santa Fe, New Mexico, which is known for creative arts.

Advocate SPOTLIGHT: *Student Patrycja Piaskowski*

To acquaint readers better with Members of the Advocate Society, we spotlight a Member in each issue. In this newsletter issue, Patrycja Piaskowski is featured as a Law Student Member. Patrycja is currently a 3L at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law



Why are you a member of the Advocates Society?

As a Polish immigrant and first-generation law student, I found it important to join the Advocates Society to connect with other legal professionals like myself. I want to be a part of the Polish legal community and to empower any new or prospective members to pursue their legal careers, and the Advocates Society is an outlet for me to do so.

Give us an example of how being a member of the Advocates Society empowered you as a law student and future attorney.

Being a member has helped combat my impostor syndrome and given me a sense of belonging in the legal field. There are so many great individuals that are part of this organization, and it has been empowering to see them thrive in the legal field as I hope to do myself as a future attorney.

What are you most looking forward to this year, personally and professionally?

I am nervously excited about sitting for the bar exam this July. I am also looking forward to continuing to develop my skills and experience in intellectual property law at Flener IP & Business Law under the mentorship of a group of excellent attorneys.

On a personal note, I am really looking forward to traveling to Poland for three weeks in August with my husband, after I complete the bar exam.

Share any other information about yourself that you think our readers would enjoy.

I graduated from the same high school as Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Bernie Sanders, and Chuck Schumer — James Madison High School in Brooklyn, New York! I like to think that is where my affinity for the law comes from.

In terms of hobbies, I love taking photos and would love to take a class on developing film once I graduate from law school. I also really enjoy watching romantic comedies and lighthearted shows (like *The Office* or *Parks and Recreation*) to relax at the end of a long day. Finally, I love going to art museums and try to visit at least one in every new city I visit. The last art museum I visited was the Princes Czartoryski Museum in Kraków!



Excavations of WWII Warsaw Ghetto

(From left to right) Advocate Michael H. Traison with the site archaeologist

As World War II ended in 1945, the city of Warsaw, including the former Jewish Ghetto, was in ruins. Millions of tons of rubble covered the streets. Walking in Warsaw today one can see hills and mounds covered by grass, with wartime rubble beneath. Silent testimony.

Last June—for the first time in almost 80 years—iconic bunker Mila 18 was uncovered and artifacts were brought to the surface. These included religious objects, weapons, shoes, bottles and candle stick holders. Advocates Society Member *Michael H. Traison* visited this excavation, watching as archaeologists dug into Poland's tragic history. Leon Uris' epoch novel *Mila 18* tells the story of the Ghetto uprising whose, 80th anniversary Advocate *Traison* will help commemorate on April 19th this year. (*continued*)

Excavations of WWII Warsaw Ghetto



Poland is constructing the Warsaw Ghetto Museum, to be housed in a former Children's Hospital owned before the war by the Jewish community. The Warsaw Ghetto Museum is responsible for the excavations and the Museum is set to open in 2025.

Advocate Traison was able to walk around the excavations site, only 200 meters from his home from which he can see the former Jewish Getto through his windows.

We appreciate the pictures he submitted to us and being able to peer back into history with him. We too will remember and never forget.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR FINALISTS FOR
COOK COUNTY ASSOCIATE JUDGE
"SHORT LIST"



AUDREY VICTORIA COSGROVE
PAST PRESIDENT & ADVOCATE MEMBER



MICHELE ANN GEMSKIE
ADVOCATE MEMBER & COMMITTEE CHAIR




DEBJANI DASGUPTA DESAI
ADVOCATE MEMBER



SCOTT TZINBERG
ADVOCATE MEMBER



JOELL CLAIRE BISCEGLIA
ADVOCATE MEMBER

A hand holding a blue balloon, partially visible on the left side of the page.

Unforeseeable Business Circumstances Exception as a Defense to a Claim Brought Under the WARN Act

By Alon Stein

You represent a large hospice. Your client has been in business for many years and was expecting to remain in business. Your client was anticipating the receipt of a multi-million-dollar Medicare reimbursement payment within days. Then, your client is notified that its most significant revenue stream, its Medicare reimbursement payments, has been immediately suspended without prior notice. Your client appeals that decision and fights for the Medicare funds to keep its business afloat, only to be rejected. Then, your client notifies its employees that it would be ceasing its operations immediately because without the Medicare funds, it cannot make payroll.

Is this unexpected suspension of Medicare reimbursements an unforeseeable business circumstance which excuses your client from the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, 29 U.S.C. §§2101-2109 (the "WARN Act") 60-day notice requirement?

It is definitely a defense to consider. The WARN Act requires that business enterprises which employ 100 or more employees give employees 60 days' notice in advance of any mass layoffs or plant closings, unless certain exceptions apply. One such exception is if the mass layoff or plant closing is "caused by business circumstances that were not foreseeable as of the time that notice would have been required." 29 U.S.C. §2102(b)(2)(A).

The WARN Act is all about timing. It exempts an employer from the 60-day advance notice requirement for a mass layoff when the cause of the job losses is not "reasonably foreseeable" 60 days prior to when they actually occur, in specific recognition of the commonsense business reality that such large changes in the workforce are not always predictable two months in advance. 29 U.S.C. §2102(b)(2)(A). (*continued*)

The WARN Act was not meant to cause employees uncertainty by requiring employers to tell them that they are going to be terminated before that decision is probable and before it can be reasonably predicted when that decision could be necessary. *Roquet v. Arthur Andersen*, 398 F.3d 585 (7th Cir. 2005). Rather, the WARN Act reasonably balances the interests of employees and employers. In doing so, the WARN Act would impose liability on the employer only if 60 days prior to the mass layoffs, it could have reasonably foreseen that an event (loss of Medicare funds) would cause the shutdown of the company (and the resulting layoffs).

Here, there is an argument that because the closing of your client's business was directly caused by the sudden suspension of Medicare reimbursements without notice—which was not foreseeable 60 days prior to that closing—the Act's 60-day notice obligation was eliminated. See *Roquet v. Arthur Andersen*, 398 F.3d 585 (7th Cir. 2005); *Jurcev v. Central Community Hospital*, 7 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1993). Sixty days before the job losses, your client did not know and could not have known that its Medicare payments would be suspended without notice because your client had no control over that decision or the timing of that decision. (*continued*)


Thus, a business circumstance is reasonably unforeseeable if it was caused by some sudden, dramatic, and unexpected action, or by conditions outside the employer's control. See *Roquet v. Arthur Andersen*, 398 F.3d at 588. The standard for foreseeability is whether the need for the particular layoff was probable based on available information as of 60 days before it occurred. In addition, "an employer does not have to be caught completely off guard by a dire business circumstance for it to be 'sudden, dramatic, or unexpected.'" *Id.* at 589.

Specifically, "WARN defendants need not show that the circumstances which caused a plant closing or mass layoff arose out of the blue to qualify for the exception." *Id.*

In *Roquet*, the Seventh Circuit affirmed dismissal of a WARN Act claim against Arthur Andersen under the WARN Act's unforeseen business circumstances exception. The Seventh Circuit en banc found that the criminal indictment of Arthur Andersen by the U.S. Department of Justice was an unforeseen business circumstance under the WARN Act, even though the firm knew that the U.S. Department of Justice was investigating and that an indictment was possible, where the firm continued to negotiate with the Department of Justice and made the layoffs only after the indictment became public and the firm suffered major revenue losses. *Id.* at 588–89.

Specifically, the Seventh Circuit held that: "We believe that a reasonable company in Andersen's position would have reacted as it did. Confronted with the possibility of an indictment that threatened its very survival, the firm continued to negotiate with the government until the very end and turned to layoffs only after the indictment became public. The plaintiffs argue that Andersen should have notified employees of layoffs on February 22. We do not agree. At that point,

Andersen had not yet lost business or been indicted. Indeed, in our view, a mass layoff at that point would have been a poor business decision. What if the government decided not to indict the firm as a whole, or waited 6 months to make the decision? The only reason for providing notice so early would be to ward off potential WARN Act liability. But, as the Sixth Circuit explained . . . the WARN Act is not intended to deter companies from fighting to stay afloat." *Id.* at 589. (*continued*)



Andersen had not yet lost business or been indicted. Indeed, in our view, a mass layoff at that point would have been a poor business decision. What if the government decided not to indict the firm as a whole, or waited 6 months to make the decision? The only reason for providing notice so early would be to ward off potential WARN Act liability. But, as the Sixth Circuit explained . . . the WARN Act is not intended to deter companies from fighting to stay afloat." *Id.* at 589.

Similarly, in *Jurcev v. Central Community Hospital*, 7 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1993), the Court upheld summary judgment for the employer because the business conditions which caused the layoff—loss of funding—were beyond the employer hospital's control, and this loss of funding was not foreseeable 60 days in advance of the layoff, although the hospital knew that its financial condition was precarious (in a "grave condition" as the Court put it), and it was dependent on funding which it learned almost 60 days before the layoff "might very well" be withdrawn. *Id.*

Here, the facts of the client's case are extremely similar to *Roquet* and *Jurcev*. The business condition which caused the closing—loss of Medicare and Medicaid funding (upon which your client's operations depended)—was beyond your client's control, and this loss of funding was not foreseeable 60 days in advance of the employee layoffs and the closing of your clients' business. There would be a strong argument for arguing the Unforeseeable Business Circumstances Exception to the WARN Act on behalf of your client.

In sum, the Unforeseeable Business Circumstances Exception is very fact sensitive. Attorneys need to be aware of this argument when defending WARN Act claims.

Save the Date



March 9th CLE: The Do's and Don'ts of Appeals in the Illinois Appellate Court

The Advocates' will hold a CLE at the General Meeting on March 9th with the following panelists Justice Mathias Delort, Justice Aurelia Pucinski, Justice Mary Mikva and Justice Jesse Reyes. Historian Alon Stein will be moderating the panel discussion

For more information, please visit our website.



Polish Constitutional Parade Saturday, May 6, 2023

The Advocates' trolley will once again participate at the Polish Constitution Day Parade on May 6, 2023. The Parade not only commemorates the Centennial of the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791, but also provides the Advocates opportunity to come together with other community organizations to celebrate Polish patriotism, culture, history, and heritage. For more information, please contact First Vice-President, Hon. Thomas Nowinski at Advocatessociety@gmail.com.

Make a DIFFERENCE

Volunteer at Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic

The Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic is a free legal clinic primarily serving the Polish American community in the Chicago metro area. The Clinic provides one-on-one legal advice to low-income individuals who cannot afford to hire an attorney or who do not know who to turn to. Although the Clinic offers aid primarily to the Polish American community, the doors are open for all. Volunteers include attorneys, paralegals, Polish interpreters and law students.

Both attorneys and Polish volunteer translators are needed at the Clinic. Attorneys with the following legal practice areas are especially needed: family law, landlord/tenant disputes, immigration, personal injury, estate planning and probate. The Clinic meets the third Saturday of each month. You can volunteer in-person at 9am to meet with clients at 10am (at the Polish National Alliance), by Zoom or by being "on call."

The Legal Clinic also offers opportunities to participate or present CLE's on the day the Clinic meets (3rd Saturday). One recent CLE Presentation was completed by Elizabeth Rompf Bruen on the topic of the "Intersections of Immigration and Family Law."

Anyone interested in giving a CLE presentation, please submit the following at least two weeks in advance of the Presentation:

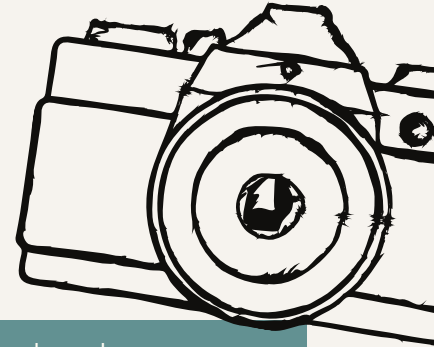
- Title and a 2-3 sentence description of the CLE;
- Bio/credentials of the presenter(s);
- Desired date, starting time, and duration of the presentation/amount of CLE credit(s); and
- Copy of any materials (PowerPoint or PDF).

Submissions should be emailed to: amicuspoloniaeclinic@gmail.com.

Below are names of some attorneys who have regularly volunteered at the Clinic in the past months. Now, it's your turn to volunteer in person, by zoom or by being "on call!!!"

Katarzyna Caputa	Katherine Levine
Izabela Czajkowska	Marek Loza
Roman Drewniak	Andrzej Maczek
Lucas Figiel	Robin Ann Nowicki
Michal Fus	Jerzy Pasko
Tomasz Gabryszewski	Steve Rakowski
Konrad Grabowski	David Shestokas
Robert Groszek	Kent Sinson
Beata Leja	Rochelle Turrisi

Poland's History, Culture and Traditions



Warsaw, Voted Best European Travel Destination

By Jessica Wiczorkiewicz

Do you have plans to travel this year? Need ideas on where to go? Well, look no further: the organization "European Best Destinations" has released its "20 Best Places to Visit in Europe in 2023" and Warsaw came in at the top of the list - and that vote comes from 700,000 travelers representing 78 countries, from a list of 400 European destinations. Strongly consider visiting Warsaw this summer if you can, because there is truly so much to see and do in the beautiful "Old World" city of Poland's capital.

Warsaw is often referred to as the "Phoenix City" due to the number of times it has been destroyed and risen again. During World War II, more than 85% of Warsaw was bombed and devastated. However, during a 5-year reconstruction campaign, Warsaw's citizens restored the Old Town, which dates back to the 13th century.

In juxtaposition to the cobblestone streets and old town neighborhoods, Warsaw is also home to the tallest building in the European Union: the Varso Tower, standing at 1,017 ft, and for reference, the Sears Tower (yes, Sears Tower) stands at 1,454 ft. The Varso Tower earned this title in February 2021. Another interesting sight to see in Warsaw is the narrowest house in the world. The Keret House was built in 2012 as a two-story building measuring just 3.02 x 4.99 ft!

In addition to these distinctive sites, there are many others to see in Warsaw like the Royal Castle, the Palace of Culture and Science, the Uprising Museum, the Old Town Market Square, and Lazienki Krolewskie Park... the list goes on and on. My last visit to Warsaw was in August 2019, and the Old Town Square (see picture below) was my favorite location to hang out in. It is surrounded by colorful buildings, beautiful and historic architecture, fun shops, and great restaurants and cafes.



Letter from Madame President

Dear Members and Friends,

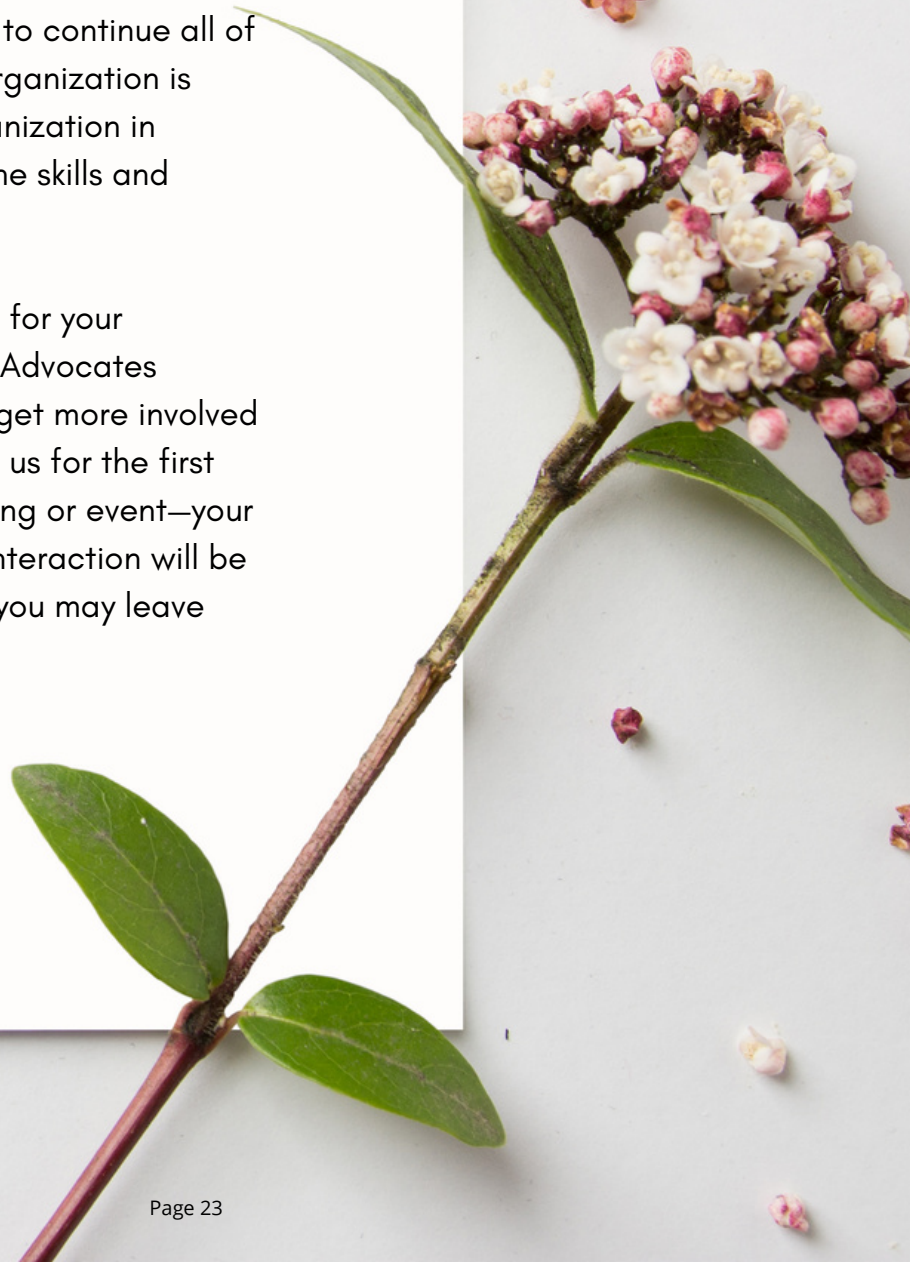
I am humbled to serve as President of the Advocates Society for 2023-2024. It has been a pleasure to be a member, officer, and committee chair for the last twenty years to share common heritage and legal profession. I have always been proud of my mother's Polish heritage and honor my family with my involvement in the Advocates Society.

My goals are simple for the coming year: to continue all of the great programming and events our organization is well-known; to continue to grow our organization in numbers and influence; and to develop the skills and talents within our organization.

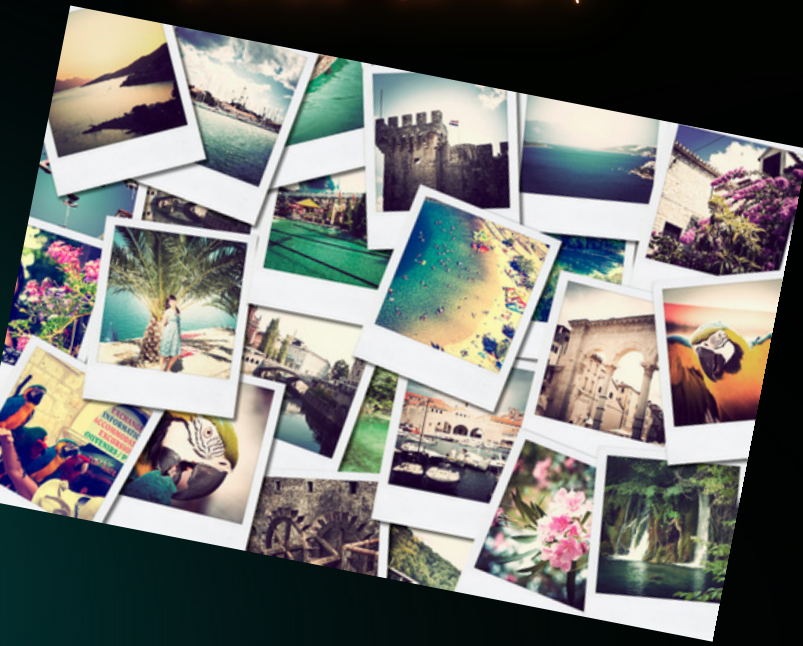
If you are a long-time member, thank you for your continued involvement. If you are new to Advocates Society, welcome and you are invited to get more involved on a committee. If you are hearing about us for the first time, please join us at any General Meeting or event—your hunger for food, knowledge, and social interaction will be satisfied. Come for the food or CLE and you may leave with life-long friends.

Sincerely,

Ann L. Melichar



Photos Wanted



Advocates, send us your PHOTOS!

Traveling somewhere special this Spring or Summer? Planning any trips to Poland? Send us photos for the next Newsletter!

Email:

Advocatessociety@gmail.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/polishadvocates>

We encourage every Advocate to email us any announcements such as job promotions, awards received or personal achievements. Advocatessociety@gmail.com.

BECOME A MEMBER

Who qualifies to be a member? Any person of Polish descent or affinity, duly licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction, is eligible for membership in this Society, regardless of race or religion. A condition of membership shall be absolute and unqualified loyalty to the constitution of the United States of America.

When do I need to renew? Memberships are renewed every March.

How do I pay? You can visit our website, www.advocatessociety.org.

General Membership

(5 or more years) - \$175

Attorneys who have been admitted to the bar for five (5) or more years.

General Membership

(less than 5 years) - \$150

Attorneys who have been admitted to the bar for less than five (5) years.

Law Student Membership - \$30

Individuals who are not licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction, but are a student attending an accredited law school.

Associate Membership (non-attorney) - \$75

Individuals who are not licensed to practice law in any jurisdiction. This is a non-attorney, non-voting membership.



Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic

Volunteers are needed (attorneys and Polish translators) for the Amicus Poloniae Pro Bono Clinic Sessions.

WHEN? 3rd Saturday of each month - 9am to 1:30pm
(Mar 18, Apr 15, May 20, Jun 17)

WHERE? In person at the Polish National Alliance (6100 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago), via Zoom, or by being "on call."

HOW? Contact us by emailing: Advocatessociety@gmail.com, and we will make sure you receive a CVLS volunteer registration form to fill out prior to the next session so you are all set for the session you want to attend and those for the rest of the year. CVLS provides legal liability coverage for registered volunteers.



Happy Easter!



FROM THE ADVOCATES SOCIETY

THANKS!

The PR/Newsletter Committee give thanks to the contributors who submitted photos, content and information to the current issue of Newsletter. We appreciate your time, support and dedication!

Contributors in this issue include:

- Mark Dobrzycki
- Camilla Mroczkowski
- Patrycia Piaskowski
- Regina Rathnau
- Justyna Regan
- Michael H. Traison
- Scott Tzinberg
- Alon Stein
- Artur Zadrozny

Newsletter Submissions

The next deadline for newsletter submissions is May 15, 2023. Please send items to Advocatessociety@gmail.com.

Articles should be in Word format and pictures in jpeg or PDF format. Permission to publish as received or edited is assumed when emailed. Any announcements such as job promotions, awards received or personal achievements, may also be submitted.