

Greenbaum Rowe Attys On Their NJWLA Leadership Roles

By **Kevin Penton**

Law360 (August 4, 2022, 3:38 PM EDT) -- Two Greenbaum Rowe Smith & Davis LLP attorneys have been elected to new leadership positions in the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association for the two-year term that began in July.

Partner Jemi Goulian Lucey will serve on the NJWLA's executive board as its nominations co-director and be responsible for continuing to attract new leadership to the association, while counsel Jessica M. Carroll will serve as co-chair of the Judicial Outreach Committee and work with members of the state judiciary on various educational programs in New Jersey.

Lucey, the co-chair of Greenbaum Rowe's higher education practice group and a past NJWLA president, and Carroll, a litigator who focuses her practice on health care, spoke Wednesday with Law360 Pulse about their experiences with the NJWLA and why they think it's an important organization for female attorneys in the Garden State.

The interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Tell me about your initial experience with NJWLA.

Carroll: I think one of the first events that I attended was the gala. Immediately I was struck by how forthcoming some of the women were and how successful some of them were. It was very comforting to see where they had started and where they had finished. It was something that I thought was very moving in a way that made me realize that it was something that I could get a lot of support from.



Jemi Goulian Lucey



Jessica M. Carroll

How did the pandemic impact the association? I imagine that not being able to see each other in person must have been difficult.

Lucey: Actually, there were some significant positives that came out of having to go through that experience. Even though from the outside it feels like we're a small state, New Jersey is really a large state. There's the northern region, the southern region and the central region. More often than not, bar associations tend to be North Jersey-centric. The state bar's law center is in New Brunswick, our gala is held in Essex County, etc. So the ability to do everything remotely for those months really brought in a lot of people to our programming who would not have otherwise attended in person. We were able to increase our southern presence very significantly. We brought in some new board members, and we made an effort to partner with bar associations that had a greater presence in South Jersey

For someone reading this who may not be a member of the association, why should they join?

Lucey: It's a group of genuine women who come together to conscientiously advocate for the

advancement of women in the profession. They do so in such a warm and welcoming way. You attend the events, and you listen to people at various points in their careers, and what they say resonates. Whether you're a very junior attorney just starting out in the profession, a junior associate or a very young member of a corporate organization in their in-house legal team, to the most senior members of firms and government, you can take what is being said and apply it to your own experience. Everyone is genuinely interested in helping. There's no competitiveness, there's no issue of not having enough room at the table, everybody knows that we are stronger with more of us in leadership positions to more zealously advocate across the board.

How has being a member of the NJWLA impacted your own career?

Carroll: During the first event that I attended, I remember listening to the stories of these women and where they started and where they're headed and what their road map was. Each one of them was different, but they all ended up in a place where they wanted to be and were proud to be. They became very powerful in the positions that they had. I guess for me as someone who is young watching something like that, you can see all these different versions of yourself and what you can aspire to be. That's the support that the organization gives to all of its members.

--Editing by Orlando Lorenzo.

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