



MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
MONROE LEGAL REPORTER
913 MAIN STREET · STROUDSBURG, PA 18360 · MONROEBAR.ORG
570.424.7288
570.424.8234 (FAX)

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM: MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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Monroe County Bar Association Announces 2017 Liberty Bell Award Honoree

Stroudsburg, PA — The Monroe County Bar Association has named Patricia Fretz this year’s **Liberty Bell Award** recipient. With more than 40 years’ service at **Monroe County Area Agency on Aging**, plus a notable presence in community involvement, the Stroudsburg resident will be recognized for her contribution toward promoting an understanding of the law as it relates to educating residents both old and young on their rights and responsibilities in protecting the elderly.

“I do what I do because I like what I do,” comments the retired Agency Director.

Adding, “Older people have a lot to give and a lot of history,” she reminded respect is in order for the men and women she admires and advocates.

As part of the local **Elder Abuse Task Force**—an organization driven to uphold protective services duties investigating complaints of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; she, alongside partners from the community, have performed responsibilities with the ongoing goal of encouraging public participation in reporting suspected mistreatment.

Elder Law Attorney Lori Cerato commented on her nomination of Fretz indicating, “Her restrained but firm approach demonstrates respect for the law and courts.”

Describing her as, “Practical, compassionate, ethical, professional and a skilled communicator,” she added, “Patty has a patient and calm approach about following the course that results in the least restrictive outcome for the senior.”

Agreeing, “Educating seniors is a civic responsibility,” she shares Fretz’s passion for training members of the community who interact with seniors which includes end-of-life planning for employees and volunteers at **VNA Hospice** part of **Lehigh Valley Health Network**.

Taking pride as part of a combined effort, “Enabling older people to be informed and make decisions for themselves,” Fretz smiles looking back upon all of her volunteer efforts reminding, “I didn’t do any of that alone.”

Monroe County Bar Association will celebrate Patricia “Patty” Fretz during a public ceremony scheduled for 9 a.m. April 28 in **Courtroom One** of **Monroe County Courthouse** as part of **Law Day** festivities. Other contributors to be recognized that day for forging a better understanding and appreciation of the law include MCBA Creativity Project Contestants. A Fairy Tale Trial introducing area students to the duties of legal professionals will follow.

Photo cutline:

Retired Director of Monroe County Area Agency on Aging and communitywide volunteer,
Patricia Fretz, receives MCBA Liberty Bell Award recognition

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For further comment:

Denise M. Burdge

Executive Director

Monroe County Bar Association

913 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360

[570.424.7288](tel:570.424.7288)

dburdge@monroebar.org