

**MBA NEWS**  
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## **Holliston resident, Boston attorney elected president of Massachusetts Bar Association**

BOSTON, Mass. — Holliston resident and Boston attorney Valerie A. Yarashus has been elected president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for the 2009-10 association year. Her term begins Sept. 1. Yarashus is a principal with Meehan, Boyle, Black and Bogdanow PC, where she concentrates in plaintiff's trial practice and a wide variety of other general liability cases.

Technology, preserving access to justice and enhancing diversity in the profession will be Yarashus' top priorities for the 2009-10 association year. She will also work to ensure the MBA's benefits and programming bring about greater efficiencies for practicing attorneys, allowing them to strike a better balance between the office and home.

Prior to serving as MBA president-elect in the 2008-09 association year, Yarashus served as treasurer following two consecutive terms as vice president. Her signature efforts as an MBA officer include spearheading the MBA Task Force on Diversity from 2005 to 2007 and co-founding the association's Leadership Roundtables. A past chair of the Health Law Section and a former member of the Civil Litigation Section Council, she is a frequent speaker and writer for continuing legal education programs and co-chairs a bench-bar task force for plain English jury instructions.

Dedicated to bar involvement, Yarashus is also active in the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys and served as its president in 2002-03.

Yarashus was awarded the prestigious Weidermann Wysocki "Citation of Excellence" from the American Association for Justice for her commitment to the civil justice system. She is also an Oliver Wendell Holmes Life Fellow of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation, and has served on its grant advisory committee. In 1997, Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly named Yarashus one of the "Rising Stars" in the legal profession, and in 2006, inducted her into its Up-and-Coming Lawyers Hall of Fame. Since 2004, she has been named in every edition of Best Lawyers in America. Also, Yarashus has been listed by Boston Magazine's "Best of Boston" as a "Super

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Lawyer” in the field of personal injury every year since 2004, and as one of the top 50 female attorneys in Massachusetts (including every practice area) annually since 2005.

Yarashus obtained her bachelor’s degree from George Washington University in 1987 and earned her law degree from Harvard Law School, cum laude, in 1990.

Alongside Yarashus, the other 2009-10 MBA officers include: Denise Squillante, president-elect, Fall River; Richard P. Campbell, vice president, Boston; Douglas K. Sheff, vice president, Boston; Robert L. Holloway Jr., treasurer, Peabody; and Jeffrey N. Catalano, secretary, Boston.

*Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.*

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