



20 WEST STREET, BOSTON, MA 02111-1204 • COMMUNICATIONS@MASSBAR.ORG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 31, 2016

CONTACT: Jason Scally (617) 338-0682; Mike Vigneux (617) 338-0675

Jeffrey N. Catalano of Todd & Weld LLP elected 2016-17 Massachusetts Bar Association president

New officers begin year-long term on Sept. 1

BOSTON, Mass. — West Roxbury resident Jeffrey N. Catalano has been elected president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its 2016-17 year, beginning on Sept. 1. During his presidency, Catalano plans to promote leadership and pro bono opportunities, as well as civility and professionalism.

“Our primary focus will be to develop future legal leaders through the MBA who have the passion and ability to address the problems in our society with accountability and compassion in a collaborative manner,” said Catalano, a partner at Todd & Weld LLP. “When people hear about all the great things we are doing, we want them thinking, ‘I want in.’”

Alongside Catalano, the other 2016-17 MBA officers include: President-elect Christopher P. Sullivan, Hingham; Vice President John J. Morrissey, Hingham; Treasurer Christopher A. Kenney, Sudbury; Secretary Denise I. Murphy, Westwood. (Read more about the other elected MBA officers below.)

About MBA President Jeffrey N. Catalano

Catalano is a partner at Todd & Weld LLP in Boston, where he represents victims of catastrophic injuries in the areas of medical negligence, product liability, auto accident, class action and other personal injury cases.

In addition to serving as an MBA officer and member of the MBA’s Executive Management Board and House of Delegates, Catalano has chaired the association’s Volunteer Recognition, Recruitment and Retention Task Force, and the MBA’s Civil Litigation Section Council. He also co-chairs the MBA’s Leadership Academy, leads the MBA’s Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. Scholarship Committee, and serves as a judge for the MBA’s High School Mock Trial program. In 2011, Catalano launched the MBA Pro Bono Prescription program, a pioneering initiative that brings together volunteer attorneys and medical professionals to promote the health and well-being of low-income patients through legal advocacy.

Catalano has served as a member of the executive committee for the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys, where he received the President’s Award for his dedication to justice and consumer rights. He was recently selected to serve on the Board of Advisors for the National Patient Safety Foundation, a non-profit that partners with patients and families, the health care community, and key stakeholders to advance patient safety and disseminate strategies to prevent harm. Catalano has spoken on patient rights and medical-legal issues on national television and for bar associations across the state. In 2009, he received a “Hero from the Field” award for his efforts in improving health care quality and patient rights.

From 2013 to 2016, the *Boston Globe* and *Wall Street Journal* named Catalano a New England Best Lawyer for Personal Injury and Product Liability. Catalano was also named one of the Best Lawyers in America by *U.S. News & World Report* from 2015 to 2017. From 2009 to 2016, *Super Lawyers* selected Catalano as a New England Super

Lawyer. In 2014, he was named one of Boston's Top Rated Lawyers in Medical Malpractice by Legal Leaders™, signifying the "highest level of professional excellence."

Catalano graduated from the University of Scranton in 1990. He went on to earn his J.D. from Boston College Law School in 1994. While at Boston College Law School, Catalano received the Commencement Award for Professional and Personal Achievement.

About the other 2016-17 MBA officers

President-elect Christopher P. Sullivan is a partner at Robins Kaplan LLP in Boston. His law practice concentrates in civil jury trials in complex litigation matters, including financial and securities cases and intellectual property matters. A Hingham resident, Sullivan graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester in 1971, and he received his J.D. from Fordham University in 1975.

Vice President John J. Morrissey is a founding partner of Morrissey, Wilson & Zafiropoulos LLP in Braintree, where he has a trial practice handling personal injury claims, including wrongful death, catastrophic injury and workers' compensation claims. He also represents individuals and businesses in commercial and real estate disputes. A Hingham resident, Morrissey graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1989 and from Boston University School of Law in 1992.

Treasurer Christopher A. Kenney is founding member and managing shareholder of Kenney & Sams PC in Boston. He has tried cases before every level of the state and federal trial court system in Massachusetts, and has served as an appellate advocate before the Massachusetts Appellate Division, Massachusetts Appeals Court, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. A Sudbury resident, Kenney earned his B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross in 1987 and went on to graduate from Boston University School of Law in 1990.

Secretary Denise I. Murphy is a partner at Rubin and Rudman LLP in Boston and chair of the firm's Labor and Employment Division. As part of her practice she counsels regional and national businesses on a broad variety of employment law-related issues; litigates sexual harassment and discrimination claims; and drafts a multitude of employment contracts, severance agreements, handbooks and policy statements. A Westwood resident, Murphy graduated from the University of Massachusetts Boston in 1980. She received her J.D. from Suffolk University Law School in 1988.

Full bios for all MBA officers are available at www.massbar.org. Photos are available upon request.

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.