

MBA NEWS

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Fall River attorney elected president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its centennial year

BOSTON, Mass. — Fall River attorney Denise Squillante has been elected president of the Massachusetts Bar Association for its 2010-11 centennial year. When Squillante succeeds to the role of MBA president on Sept. 1, her term will mark the first time two consecutive female presidents have led the organization. Prior to Squillante, the last MBA president to hail from Fall River was John W. Cummings, who held office from 1918 to 1919.

A former president of the Fall River Bar Association, Squillante will become president of the New England Bar Association in October and is a member of the Bristol County Bar Association Executive Board.

In honor of its 100th anniversary, the MBA will be celebrating a century of service to the public, the profession and the rule of law throughout its 2010-11 association year.

Squillante established a solo practice in Fall River nearly 30 years ago and now has a small-firm. She concentrates in family law, corporate law, injury and estates, and also provides business and legal consulting services to corporations.

Long active in the MBA's Family Law Section Council and its committees, Squillante has lent her energy to the MBA's Presidential Task Force on Terrorism, the Amicus Committee and the Joint Bar Committee. A former recipient of the MBA's Pro Bono Publico Award, Squillante is a longtime member of the MBA's House of Delegates and a Massachusetts Bar Foundation Life Fellow.

Squillante has testified in front of the Massachusetts Legislature on behalf of the MBA and is a frequent guest lecturer for MBA continuing legal education programs. She was instrumental in establishing the MBA's General Practice, Solo & Small Firm Section as well as leading the MBA's efforts to assist lawyers who are transitioning in or out of practice.

Squillante is a member of a legislative task force to study alimony created by the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and was co-chair of the joint MBA/Boston Bar Association Alimony Task Force. She is also an MBA delegate to the American Bar Association's House of Delegates.

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A member of the Probate Court Modification Task Force, Squillante is also a trustee of Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Inc. and on the National Conference of Bar President's Program Committee.

Squillante took part in the Supreme Judicial Court Steering Committee for Self-Represented Litigants Advisory Group and was a member of the Probate Court Scheduling Task Force. She also represented the MBA on the Equality Commission — a collaborative effort of the MBA, BBA and the Women's Bar Association.

Highly involved with efforts to address domestic violence in Fall River, Squillante was recently awarded the John S. Brayton Jr. Memorial Community Service Award by the Fall River Chamber of Commerce. A former member of the board of directors for the Katie Brown Educational Program, YMCA-Fall River and Domestic Violence Task Force, Squillante is also a former visiting lecturer at Bridgewater State College and Bristol Community College.

Squillante obtained her bachelor's degree from Roger Williams University in 1980. She went on to earn her law degree from the New England School of Law in 1983, *magna cum laude*.

Alongside Squillante, the other 2010-11 MBA officers include: Richard P. Campbell, president-elect, Boston; Douglas K. Sheff, vice president, Boston; Jeffrey N. Catalano, vice president, Boston; Robert L. Holloway Jr., treasurer, Peabody; and Marsha V. Kazarosian, secretary, Haverhill.

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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