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January 6, 2026

Michele Frey, Executive Director
Lycoming Law Association
25 West Third Street, Ste. 803
Williamsport, PA 17701

Re: Report of Bench/Bar Committee of
Lycoming Law Association -- 2025

Dear Michele:

The Bench/Bar Committee was reorganized in 2025 by then LLA President, Joy McCoy. Members were appointed based upon their areas of practice and their interest in participating in the committee. Each member was assigned a given area of practice with the expectation that he/she would bring to the meetings any topics of interest pertaining to his/her designated area.

Those appointments and assignments were carried over for 2025 and are as follows:

President Judge Butts; Judge Linhardt; Judge Tira; Judge Carlucci; Judge Gardner (LLA President); Ed Mitchell (Chair); Joy Reynolds McCoy; Tom Marino (DA); Nicole Spring (PD); Kyle Rule (Private Criminal Defense); David Wilk (Plaintiff Law); Tom Waffenschmidt (Plaintiff Med Mal); Brian Bluth (Defendant Law/Med Mal); Cliff Riders (Federal Practice); Bradley Hillman (Family Law); Melody Protasio (Adoptions); Matthew Diemer (PFA); Elizabeth White (Orphans Court); Marc Drier (Real Estate); Marc Lovecchio (General Practice); Tom Marshall (Business & Commercial); Jeff Yates (Dependency); Mike Dinges (Delinquency); J. Michael Wiley (Municipal); Robert Cronin (Environmental); Jennifer Heverly (Pro Bono Coordinator); Tom Heap (Prothonotary); Dave Huffman (Register & Recorder); Stephanie Tribble (DRO Administrator); Adrienne Stahl (Court Administrator); Michele Frey (LLA Executive Director)

Jeff Yates died during the year and needs to be replaced. Tom Waffenschmidt and David Wilk asked to be replaced. These members need to be replaced by the new President.

Prior to each meeting, the Chairman contacted each LLA Committee Chair with the request that they add to the agenda any items of interest which they felt needed to be reported and/or discussed.

The Committee met: February 3, 2025, May 5, 2025, August 4, 2025, and November 3, 2025. The meetings were held in person at the LLA office.

Minutes of the meetings are posted on the Lycoming Law Association website. Topics discussed included:

Recommendations for supervised bail and authority for the determination of supervised bail, Family Law Arbitration Act, Federal Trade Commission Rule barring non-compete provisions in employment contracts, enforcement of FTC Rule on non-compete provisions, update to Corporate Transparency Act, FinCEN issuing rule removing requirement for US companies/persons to report Beneficial Ownership Information under Corporate Transparency Act, memorial resolutions for Jeff Yates, staffing shortage in Public Defender's office and District Attorney's office, implementation of Act 44 pertaining to early release from supervision, interviewing of victims of persons qualified under Act 44, four divisions of treatment court, newly installed software in Register & Records office, admissions ceremony for new LLA lawyers, Young Lawyers collecting toys for Christmas donations and the Young Lawyers were invited to attend and participate in the Bench/Bar meeting in November.

Attendance and participation by Judges and lawyers was satisfactory.

Meetings for 2026 will be as follows: February 2, 2026, May 4, 2026, August 3, 2026 and November 2, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Edward S. Mitchell, Chairman