# FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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# FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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Co-Editors: Garnet L. Gordon and Melinda Deal Dellarose

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The Ethics Hotline provides free advisory opinions to PBA members based upon review of a member's prospective conduct by members of the PBA Committee on Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility. The committee responds to requests regarding, the impact of the provisions of the Rules of Professional Conduct or the Code of Judicial Conduct upon the inquiring member's proposed activity. All inquiries are confidential.

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# **ESTATE NOTICES**

Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary or of administration have been granted to the following estates. All persons indebted to said estates are required to make payment, and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the administrators or executors named.

### **Third Publication**

#### SANDRA LEE ANSEL, a/k/a SANDRA L.

ANSEL, late of German Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

*Executor*: Lewis O. Ansel, Jr. c/o Webster & Webster 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Webster & Webster

#### LOUISE ANNE HERCIK, a/k/a LOUISE A.

HERCIK, late of Georges Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Personal Representatives: Marlene Jane Hercik Evans and Lorie A. Hercik c/o Higinbotham Law Offices 68 South Beeson Boulevard Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

#### TERRELL G. HOSLER, late of Jefferson

Township, Fayette County, PA (3) *Executor*: William R. Hawker 1640 7th. Avenue Extension Brockway, PA 15824 c/o 823 Broad Avenue Belle Vernon, PA 15012 *Attorney*: Mark E. Ramsier

#### LARRY WAYNE MIKESELL, a/k/a LARRY

W. MIKESELL, late of Perryopolis Borough, Fayette County, PA (3) *Executor*: Lewis Sweitzer 4950 Summit Drive Allison Park, PA 15101 c/o P.O. Box 718 1310 Cross Street Rostraver, PA 15012 *Attorney*: Brian Pirilla

#### HILDEGARDE M. SEIAMAN, late of

Nicholson Township, Fayette County, PA (3) *Executrix*: Lindasue Owcar c/o Davis & Davis 107 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Gary J. Frankhouser

#### JOSEPH TERRY, a/k/a JOSEPH

LAWRENCE TERRY, late of Brownsville

Boro, Fayette County, PA (3) *Executor*: Joseph Daniel Terry 58 Greatwood Drive White, Georgia 30184 c/o Buday Law Firm P.O. Box 488 California, PA 15419 *Attorney*: Lisa Buday

#### JOHN TRIVONOVICH, late of Masontown

Borough, Fayette County, PA (3) *Executrix*: Tamara Jones c/o Goodwin Como. P.C. 108 North Beeson Boulevard, Suite 400 Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Amanda Como

### **Second Publication**

#### JOAN E. BERES, a/k/a JOAN BERES, late of

Washington Township, Fayette County, PA (2) *Executrix*: Raenell Ferencz
4 Naomi Street
Fayette City, PA 15438
c/o 223 2nd Street
Monongahela, PA 15063 *Attorney*: Blane A. Black

#### CAROL A. BRADLEY, a/k/a CAROL

**BRADLEY**, late of Everson, Fayette County, PA (2)

Administratrix: Kristine L. Daw 2016 Blackberry Lane Valencia, PA 16059 c/o P.O. Box 433 Ingomar, PA 15127 Attorney: Donald Strunk

#### CHRISTINA ANN CAPOSSERE, CHRISTINA ANN UNIS, a/k/a CHRISTINA CAPOSSERE-UNIS, late of Uniontown,

Fayette County, PA (2) Administratrix: Nicole A. Unis 1306 Marratta Road Aliquippa, PA 15001 c/o Thomas H. Ayoob III & Associates 710 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Attorney: Susan Livingston

#### ROGER L. CUPP, late of Farmington, Fayette

County, PA (2) Administratrix: Marlene Cupp 2261 Dinnerbell Five Forks Road Farmington, PA 15431 c/o Radcliffe Martin Law, LLC 648 Morgantown Road, Suite B Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: William Martin

#### JANICE DUBINSKY, late of Belle Vernon,

Fayette County, PA (2) *Personal Representative*: Alan Dubinsky 10950 Northeast Oregon Street Portland, Oregan 97220

#### SUSAN JACKSON, a/k/a SUSAN A.

**BARNES**, late of New Salem Borough, Fayette County, PA (2)

*Administrator*: Maurice Jackson 934 Fourth Street New Salem, PA 15468 c/o 92 East Main Street, Suite LL-2 Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Tyler Shultz

# PAUL L. LANCASTER, JR., a/k/a PAUL LAWRENCE LANCASTER, JR., late of

Luzerne Township, Fayette County, PA (2) *Executrix*: Adrienne P. Lancaster c/o DeHaas Law, LLC 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Ernest P. DeHaas, III

#### JANET MARIE MANSBERRY, a/k/a

JANET MANSBERRY, late of South Union Township, Fayette County, PA (2) *Personal Representative:* Jill Mansberry and Jonica Mansberry c/o Davis & Davis 107 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: Gary J. Frankhouser

#### DOLORES A. SENYITKO, a/k/a DOLORES

ANNA SENYITKO, late of Redstone Township, Fayette County, PA (2) *Executrix*: Roberta Marie Ryan c/o Radcliffe Martin Law, LLC 648 Morgantown Road, Suite B Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Robert R. Harper, Jr.

### **First Publication**

#### RICHARD LEE DANDO, a/k/a RICHARD L. DANDO, a/k/a RICHARD DANDO, late of

Fayette City, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Lisa Jane Pollock 321 Broad Avenue Belle Vernon, PA 15012 c/o 300 Fallowfield Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 *Attorney*: Richard C. Mudrick

#### CICELY M. FORCINA, late of Republic,

Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Lesli J. Cooper c/o 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Anthony S. Dedola, Jr.

#### JEFFREY S. GERHARDT, late of Franklin

Township, Fayette County, PA (1) *Administratrix*: Robin M. Gerhardt 196 Main Street Smock, PA 15480

#### SHIRLEY VIRGINIA HIGINBOTHAM, a/k/a VIRGINIA HIGINBOTHAM, late of

South Union Township, Fayette County, PA (1) Administrator: James E. Higinbotham, Jr. c/o Higinbotham Law Office 68 South Beeson Boulevard Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

### NELLIE MAE LEICHLITER, a/k/a NELLIE

**M. LEICHLITER**, late of German Township, Fayette County, PA (1)

*Executiv*: Donna L. Savage c/o Adams Law Offices, P.C. 55 East Church Street, Suite 101 Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Jason Adams

#### HUMPHREY LUKACHIK, III, late of North

Union Township, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Jacqueline Lukachik 110 Meadowview CT Uniontown, PA 15401 c/o 92 East Main Street, Suite 24 Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Michelle Kelley

#### ROBERT K. MCWILLIAMS, late of

Uniontown, Fayette County, PA (1) Personal Representative: Timothy A. Berg c/o Watson Mundorff, LLP 720 Vanderbilt Road Connellsville, PA 15425 Attorney: Timothy J. Witt

#### PAULINE S. OZANICH, late of German

Township, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Diane Irby 3 Roseville Court Stafford, Virginia 22556 c/o Kopas Law Office 556 Morgantown Road Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: John Kopas

# ALMA PATRICK, late of Uniontown, Fayette County, PA (1)

*Executor*: William Charles Patrick c/o Higinbotham Law Offices 68 South Beeson Boulevard Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

#### DONALD WILLIAM PLAVA, a/k/a W.

**DONALD PLAVA**, late of Uniontown, Fayette County, PA (1)

*Éxecutor*: George J. Plava c/o 312 2nd Avenue Carnegie, PA 15106 *Attorney*: Philip H. Rubenstein

#### ELAINE JOAN RALSTON, late of Mill Run,

Fayette County, PA (1) Administrator: Dawn Miller c/o Casini & Geibig 815B Memorial Boulevard Connellsville, PA 1525 Attorney: Jennifer M. Casini

#### JOSEPH A. SAVILLE, late of Saltlick

Township, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executor*: Mark Joseph Saville 2544 Pheasant Walk Elgin, SC 29045 c/o 101 North Church Street Mount Pleasant, PA 15666 *Attorney*: Randall G. Klimchock

#### DONALD C. SMITH, late of Belle Vernon,

Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Marcia Smith 3480 Frye Avenue Finleyville, PA 15332 c/o 400 Market Street Elizabeth, PA 15037 *Attorney*: Daniel F. Bekavac

#### KRISTINE L. SPEIGHT, late of Fairchance

Borough, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executor*: Frank Marhefka 1050 Farm Road Uniontown, PA 15401 c/o Kopas Law Offices 556 Morgantown Road Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: John A. Kopas, III

### JAMES D. TAIT, late of Georges Township,

Fayette County, PA (1) Administratrix: Rachel Duda c/o Davis & Davis 107 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: James T. Davis

#### BERNICE A. TYLKA, late of Normalville,

Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Bernice P. Tylka 324 Washington Street Mount Pleasant, PA 15666 c/o 101 North Church Street Mount Pleasant, PA 15666 *Attorney*: Randall G. Klimchock

#### DRUANN FAITH VOJACEK, late of North

Union Township, Fayette County, PA (1) *Executrix*: Dana Glover c/o Adams Law Offices, PC 55 East Church Street, Suite 101 Uniontown, PA 15401 *Attorney*: Jason Adams

# **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA Bankruptcy Case No. 22-22418 GLT Chapter 13

IN RE: Shirley A. Parshall, Debtor.

Property to be sold: 35 Hill Top Road, Wickhaven, Pennsylvania - ID No. 27-01-0069 -.45 acre vacant lot

Initial Offer: \$13,000.00 cash offer/ \$1,000.00 deposit

Terms of Sale: NO Contingency, \$1,000.00 in cash or certified funds at the time of sale.

Contact: Daniel R. White, Esquire, 1310 Morrell Avenue, Suite C, Connellsville, PA 15425, 724-628-7955, dwhite@westpalawyers.com

An in-person auction hearing will be held on October 9, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. before Judge Gregory L. Taddonio in Courtroom A, 54th Floor U.S. Steel Tower, 600 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219. In accordance with Judge Taddonio's procedures, parties may appear for non-evidentiary matters remotely by utilizing the Zoom video conference platform.

Parties seeking to appear remotely must register for the hearing by submitting a registration form via the link published on Judge Taddonio's website by no later than 4 p.m. on the business day prior to the scheduled hearing. All parties participating remotely shall comply with Judge Taddonio's General Procedures. Only a limited time of ten (10) minutes is being provided on the calendar. No witnesses will be heard. If there is an issue of fact, an evidentiary hearing will be scheduled by the Court for a later date. IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION No. 1694 of 2024, G.D.

IN RE: Emma Patricia Fertal, a minor By and through Renee Lynn Fertal, her natural mother and guardian.

#### PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE

The Petitioner's residence is 208 Lynn Road, Brownsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, 15417.

#### TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

Notice is hereby given that an Order of Court authorized the filing of said Petition and fixed the 8th day of November, 2024, at 10:30 o'clock, a.m. as the time and Courtroom No. 3, Fayette County Courthouse, Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the place for a hearing when and where all persons may show cause, if any they have, why said name should not be changed as prayed for.

DAVIS & DAVIS By Samuel J. Davis, Esquire Attorney for Petitioner

#### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Certificate of Organization has been approved and filed with the Department of State for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 3, 2024 for a Limited Liability Company known as Lambie Home Services, L.L.C.

Said Limited Liability Company has been organized under the provisions of the Business Corporation Law of1988 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as amended.

The purpose and purposes of the Limited Liability Company are heating and air conditioning repair, replacement and any or all lawful purposes for which a limited liability company may be organized under the Business Corporation Law, as amended.

Donald McCue Law Firm, P.C. 813 Blackstone Road Connellsville, PA 15425

# **Registers'** Notice

Notice by JEFFREY L. REDMAN, Register of Wills and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas

Notice is hereby given to heirs, legatees, creditors, and all parties in interest that accounts in the following estates have been filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas as the case may be, on the dates stated and that the same will be presented for confirmation to the Orphans' Court Division of Fayette County on

#### Monday, October 7, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.

Estate Number	Estate Name	Accountant
2623-0463	FLORENCE J. MYERS	Mary Koontz and Kathleen Schott, Co-Executors

Notice is also hereby given that all of the foregoing Accounts will be called for Audit on

#### Monday, October 21, 2024, at 9:30 A.M.

in Courtroom No. 5 of the **Honorable Judge Joseph M. George, Jr.** or his chambers, Third Floor, Courthouse, Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, at which time the Court will examine and audit said accounts, hear exceptions to same or fix a time therefore, and make distribution of the balance ascertained to be in the hands of the Accountants.

JEFFREY L. REDMAN Register of Wills and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division (1 of 2)

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# JUDICIAL OPINION

#### IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CRIMINAL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA	:	
V.	:	
ALLISON KALP,	:	No. 1391 OF 2022
DEFENDANT.	:	President Judge Steve P. Leskinen

#### **OPINION AND ORDER**

Leskinen, P.J.

AND NOW, this 13th day of August, 2024, before the Court is the Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. A hearing was held on the Motion on June 17, 2024. At the time of the hearing, the Defendant was charged with fifty (50) counts of theft related charges. The Common-wealth indicated that they intended to proceed on only four counts: Counts 32, 33, 34 and 35. These counts were all Access Device Counterfeit, Altered, Incomplete. 18 Pa. C.S. § 4106(A)(1) (i). These counts involved transactions using a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance card issued to another person, not the Defendant. The transactions involved the purchase of items for various amounts which were deducted from the card at a Sheetz gas station. The Defendant engaged in transactions in which she utilized the card to deduct funds for various items in the following amounts: Count 32, \$170.00; Count 33, \$170.00; Count 34, \$180.00; and at Count 35, \$15.48.

#### BACKGROUND

The United States government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (hereinafter "CARES Act"). The CARES Act created the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program. This program provided unemployment cash benefits to individuals who were ineligible for regular unemployment benefits due to the pandemic or extended unemployment benefits for those already receiving benefits. The program was administered by the Commonwealth through its Department of Labor but was funded by the federal government.

To be eligible for benefits, an Individual filed a claim on the federal website, provided personal identification, answered a series of questions, and then submitted the application to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor. When approved for benefits, the individual was issued a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance debit card (hereinafter "PUA") to which weekly benefits were direct deposited. The recipient of these funds had to provide a weekly update on their employment status.

In this case, the recipient of the PUA debit card was an individual named Dale Naugle. At the hearing, Dale Naugle testified that he worked at Red Carpet Auto Sales. A salesman and friend, Joshua DeWitt, had him apply for a card in exchange for a loan so he could purchase a truck from the dealership. Naugle testified that with the help of Joshua DeWitt, he applied for the PUA card. When Naugle received the card, he turned it over to DeWitt and received a vehicle that was subsequently repossessed. Naugle testified that he knew the defendant and she was the girlfriend of DeWitt. Naugle testified that he did not give the Defendant permission to use the card. On four occasions, the Defendant used the card issued to Naugle to purchase items, as demonstrated by video surveillance footage from the Sheetz.

Naugle testified that he gave the card to DeWitt and did not expect to get the card back as he considered it as payment for the vehicle. Naugle knew the Defendant and he did not specifically

August 13, 2024

authorize her to utilize the card. However, he was not present when the card was transferred to her and was not aware of what she was told about the card when it was given to her.

#### DISCUSSION

In the Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, she asserts that the Commonwealth lacks sufficient evidence to prove that she knew her use of the funds was without the consent of the owner of the card. A Writ of Habeas Corpus is a means for testing a pretrial finding that the Commonwealth has sufficient evidence to establish a prima facie case. Commonwealth v. Hendricks, 927 A.2d 289 (Pa. Super. 2008). A prima facie case consists of evidence read in the light most favorable to the Commonwealth that sufficiently establishes both the commission of the crimes and that the accused is probably the perpetrator of the crimes.

In this case, the Commonwealth proceeded only on the charge of Access Device Fraud. 18 Pa. C.S. 4106(a)(1)(i) which states:

- (a) A person commits an offense if he:
  - (1) Uses an access device to obtain or in an attempt to obtain property or services with knowledge that:
    - (i) the access device is counterfeit, altered or incomplete.

There was no recording of the preliminary hearing. At the OPT hearing before the Court, the Commonwealth did not argue that the PUA card was counterfeit, altered or incomplete. Rather, the Commonwealth proceeded on the basis that the owner of the card did not authorize the

use of the card by the Defendant. However, the Defendant testified that he had voluntarily turned the card over to the Defendant's boyfriend. The Commonwealth presented no evidence that the card was counterfeit, altered, or incomplete.

As the Commonwealth has failed to meet its burden of presenting sufficient evidence of each element of the crime charged, the Defendant's Motion for Writ of Habeas Corpus must be GRANTED. The charges in this case are hereby DISMISSED.

BY THE COURT: STEVE P. LESKINEN, PRESIDENT JUDGE

ATTEST: Clerk of Corts

# **BENCH BAR CONFERENCE**

# **Bench Bar Conference** Wednesday, October 16, 2024 The Historic Summit Inn

# AGENDA

8:30 - Meet the Sponsors & Breakfast Buffet

9:00 - 12:15 - Conference Seminars (2.0 Substantive and 1.0 Ethics CLE Credits)

Estate Planning for Impactful Giving in Fayette County Presenters: Jordan R. Pallitto and Daniel L. DeMarco, Esquire - The Hill Group

# Artificial Intelligence and the Criminal Justice System: Balancing Technology, Ethics, and Law

Presenter: Daniel Hickton, Esquire - Counsel 1337 PLLC

# **Fayette County Criminal Practice Discussion**

Presenter: District Attorney Michael A. Aubele, Esquire

# Acknowledgment of 50 Year Member Gary N. Altman, Esquire

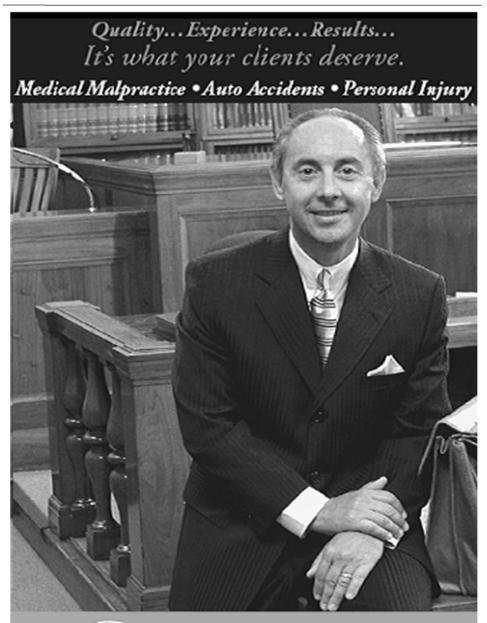
**Remarks by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Debra Todd** Introduction by Gretchen A. Mundorff, Esquire

12:30 - Lunch Buffet

### Fees to Attend

FCBA members - \$85 Non-members of the FCBA - \$135 Attorneys admitted to practice in Pennsylvania after January 1, 2019 - \$50

RSVP due Wednesday, October 2nd 724-437-7994 or cindy@fcbar.org





& ASSOCIATES



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