

CLBB News

A newsletter from the Center for Law, Brain & Behavior

CLBB Annual Report

2018-19

This special edition of CLBB News presents highlights from the 2018-19 year, which were featured at our Advisory Board meeting last week.

Impact



CLBB partnered with the Federal Judicial Center to produce our 4th consecutive workshop on Evidence-Based Decision Making at Harvard Law School. Previous workshop participants described how the workshop made a substantial impact on their work.

CLBB continued significant judicial and attorney training, reaching over 700 judges and attorneys in person this year, including presentations to state and federal judges and to local and national professional organizations.



CLBB continued to consult on many individual cases, including high profile cases such as the case of Cyntoia Brown, for which CLBB helped draft an Amicus Brief on her behalf to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals urging them to vacate her life sentence, and later wrote to Governor Haslam of Tennessee to urge him to grant clemency.



CLBB's home institution, the MGH Department of Psychiatry, was ranked the #1 Psychiatry Department in the country by U.S. News and World Report, and has been ranked #1 for 20 of the past 25 years.

Engagement

CLBB leadership presented at prominent meetings, including the Harvard Medical School Dementia Conference for the 3rd year in a row; and the Roundtable on Combating Elder Investor Fraud at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

CLBB took prominent roles in standard setting bodies, including: the Massachusetts Forensic Science Oversight Board, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Standards on Substance Abuse Advisory Board.



New Advisory Board Members

CLBB's new Advisory Board Members add to our substantive expertise and expand our geographic and professional diversity.



[Raluca Buttner](#)

Artist; MIT Chemical Engineering Candidate

Born in Bucharest, Romania, Raluca graduated from MIT with a Chemical Engineering major and Film Studies concentration. Her career has spanned multiple projects in research, graphic design, music, and the arts.



[William Pietragallo II, JD](#)

Founding Partner of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP

Attorney Pietragallo is an accomplished trial attorney, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a Diplomat of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. He has achieved over 100 successful civil jury trial verdicts in lawsuits ranging from airline disasters, product liability, professional negligence, to antitrust and corporate takeover.

[Robert H. Hopper, JD MPP](#)

Founder and Managing Partner, Robert R. Hopper & Associates, L.L.C.

Attorney Hopper is an award-winning trial attorney and a national leader in the application of neuroscience in law. His diverse practice has included litigating in both federal and state courts, and serving as a lobbyist; as an advisor to business and corporations; and as an advisor and as a spokesperson to the media in media relations.

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