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# COLUMBIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

## First Judicial Department

*An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent*

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# ★ MARCH 2, 2011 CLE ★

## “NEW YORK’S NEW DIVORCE LAW”

**Presented by: Robert C. Mangi, Esq.**

**Wednesday, March 2nd at 6:00 p.m.**

**The Columbus Citizens Foundation**

**8 East 69th Street, NY, NY**

Attendees receive 2 CLE Credits. RSVP (212) 661-1661, ext. 106 or to  
josephdematteo@hotmail.com

**Members/Friends\*: Dinner & Credits:**

\* If your dues are not current, you will be charged the Non-Member  
rate for attendance at the CLE Dinner Programs. Please see the attached dues notice.

★ **Don't Miss This Cutting Edge CLE Program!** ★

**\*PLEASE RSVP\***

This past August New York State joined every other state in the nation by amending its matrimonial laws to allow for no-fault divorces. Additionally, the new legislation created new guidelines for setting interim maintenance and payment of attorneys fees which favor the non-monied spouse. Under this new statute, the practice of matrimonial law in New York will take on a new face.

Please join us for this cutting edge CLE program in which matrimonial law expert Robert C. Mangi, Esq., of the Westbury, NY firm of Mangi & Graham LLP, will lecture on the implications of the new law both for general practitioners and seasoned matrimonial attorneys. Mr. Mangi, who is a former President of the Nassau County Columbian Lawyers Association, is a well known expert on matrimonial law. He has written and lectured extensively on a wide variety of matrimonial law issues, and has been honored by the Nassau County Family Court Committee with its Feuerlicht-Manning Practitioner of the Year Award.

The Columbian Lawyers Association has been certified by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education in the State of New York. Any participant in a CLE Program sponsored by the Columbian Lawyers Association, First Judicial Department, who has an authentic financial hardship may request, in writing, accompanied by proper documentation and a sworn statement under oath, a Hardship Tuition Reduction of 20%. All CLE Programs are nontransitional unless otherwise indicated.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2011 ANNUAL RAPALLO AWARD LUNCHEON**  
**HONORING THE HONORABLE JUSTICE A. GAIL**  
**PRUDENTI, PRESIDING JUSTICE OF THE APPELLATE**  
**DIVISION, SECOND DEPARTMENT**

**DATE: APRIL 30, 2011**  
**TIME: 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm**  
**PLACE: Grand Ballroom, Waldorf Astoria Hotel**  
**PRICE: \$160.00 per person**

Please join your fellow Columbian Lawyers, colleagues and jurists as we honor Justice A. Gail Prudenti with the prestigious Rapallo Award. While her accomplishments are many, we note here that Judge Prudenti has earned the unique distinction of being the first woman to serve as the Presiding Justice of the Second Department. We are honored to announce that Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman will introduce our Honoree. Please RSVP as soon as possible, using the attached registration form.

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**President's Message**

As we hopefully approach some milder weather, I look forward to seeing many of you again at our monthly meetings, and, of course, at our upcoming Rapallo Award Luncheon. As Italian-American attorneys, we can be proud to have yet another honoree - Justice A. Gail Prudenti - who is such an accomplished and pre-eminent jurist. I urge each of you to join us in honoring her accomplishments on April 30, 2011, in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

As many of you will observe, although we are the Columbian Lawyers Association for the First Judicial Department, we take pride in the accomplishments of Italian American attorneys and Judges throughout our region, state, and nation, whom we seek to promote through our organization and in conjunction with other Columbian Lawyers Associations. I say this to underscore the importance of an organization that many of you may not be familiar with - the Confederation of Columbian Lawyers. Formed in 1994, the Confederation is an organization that seeks to join together Columbian Lawyers Associations from the various boroughs and counties in order to promote our common quest of enhancing our culture, our accomplishments and our business interests. Through the Confederation, and its web site - [www.columbianlawyers.org](http://www.columbianlawyers.org), each of us can reach out to Columbian Lawyers in other boroughs and counties in order to refer business and seek out the expertise of others when needed in our own practice. The Confederation meets for dinner and to discuss its business several times throughout the year, with each meeting sponsored by a local Columbian Lawyers Association. On March 14th, our group will be hosting a Confederation meeting, and I urge you to come out and meet members from the other chapters. The details of the dinner meeting are listed under our events section.

Ciao!  
Sincerely yours,  
*Joseph R. DeMatteo*

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We take pride in recognizing that our Past President and Lifetime Member Louis Aidala, was awarded the Man of the Year Award on February 5, 2011 by the Kings County Criminal Bar Association.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Confederation of Columbian Lawyers Dinner Meeting*

March 14, 2011 at 6:30 PM

Trattoria Dopo Teatro, 125 W. 44th Street, NY, NY

\$55.00 for complete dinner with wine and beer

contact josephdematteo@hotmail.com if you plan on attending

*A Renaissance Masterpiece Revealed: Fillipino Lippi's  
Madonna and Child*

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Description: Fillipino Lippi is considered one of the greatest artists of 15th century Florence. The centerpiece of the exhibit is the recently refurbished Madonna and Child, which until recently appeared dulled by a thick layer of varnish on its surface. The varnish has now been removed, allowing the beautifully preserved, rich colors to shine through.

Through April 25th

*Events at Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimó*

24 West 12th Street, NY, NY

[www.casaitaliananyu.org](http://www.casaitaliananyu.org)

All events are free of charge and open to the public.

*"Genuinely Italian" GRI Lecture Series: Presentation of John  
Mariani's "How Italian Food Conquered the World."*

March 21, 2011, 6:00 PM

*Adventures in Italian Opera with Fred Plotkin: A Conversation with  
Joyce DiDonato.*

March 30, 2011, 6:30 PM

*Adventures in Italian Opera with Fred Plotkin: A Conversation with  
Violeta Urmana*

April 13, 2011, 6:30 PM

## CULTURAL CORNER

By Matthew Grieco

During these cold, snowy days of winter, we find ourselves yearning for the warmth of spring and Earth's rebirth. The historical rebirth, the Renaissance, began, of course, in Italy. The intellectual and creative forces unleashed during that period led to the discovery of America (by an Italian) and continue to shape our world today.

If anyone deserves the title "Renaissance Man," it is Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) -- inventor, scientist, artist, writer, thinker, humanist, and all-around genius. He even has a connection to the law; his father was a notary, a position more approximating that of our attorney than our notary public.

At the age of 15, Leonardo was apprenticed to Andrea del Verrochio, himself a famous painter. Eventually, Leonardo would paint such beloved pieces as "The Last Supper," and the "Mona Lisa." He developed the techniques of chiaroscuro (gradations between light and dark, giving three dimensional appearances) and sfumato (a blurring of outlines, giving a soft and enigmatic appearance -- think Mona Lisa).

Leonardo has also left us with countless drawings, including studies for possible art works, precise anatomical drawings (not just "Vitruvian Man"), and designs for architectural projects and inventions. Among his inventions, some realized in his lifetime, others proven feasible in our age, are a bicycle, a parachute, a hang-glider, air bags, retractable landing gear, a diving suit, a propeller, a paddle-boat, a gas turbine, a machine gun, an automobile, a helicopter, a submarine, and a tank.

He recorded and sketched his pioneering observations and studies of hydrodynamics, aerodynamics, optics, acoustics, botany, zoology, physiology, geology, topography, astronomy, and friction.

Giorgio Vasari, in his "Lives of the Artists," perhaps stated it best: "The most heavenly gifts seem to be showered on certain human beings. Sometimes supernaturally, marvelously, they all congregate in one individual. Beauty, grace, and talent are combined in such bounty that whatever that man undertakes, he outdistances all other men and proves himself to be specially endowed by the hand of God. This was seen and acknowledged by all men in the case of Leonardo da Vinci."