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Contacts:

Iris Jones, Chief Business Development & Marketing Officer

ijones@mcneeslaw.com

(717) 237-5224

John Finger, Public Relations / Communications Coordinator

ifinger@mcneeslaw.com (717) 237-5444

McNees Attorneys Speak at PA Municipal Legal Update

HARRISBURG – Four McNees Wallace & Nurick attorneys spoke at the PA Municipal Legal Update during a two-day conference on Aug. 9-10 at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey. McNees also served as the sponsor of the networking reception following the first day of the conference.

The PA Municipal Legal Update addresses the needs of solicitors, municipal administrators, mayors, council members, police and fire chiefs, and finance directors. Dr. Michael P. McDonald, an associate professor of political science at the University of Florida and a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, delivered the keynote address on the first day of the conference.

McNees attorneys Jennifer Will and Denise Elliott spoke on Aug. 9, and Kathleen Duffy Bruder and Adam Santucci made presentations on Aug. 10.

Will, a member of McNees' Labor & Employment and Public Sector practice groups, presented "Labor and Employment in the Public v. Private Sectors." The presentation was designed for practitioners and officials whose experiences come primarily from the private sector. Attendees learned the key distinctions in how municipalities should approach a wide range of issues involving its employees.

Elliott, also from McNees' Labor & Employment practice group, spoke on a topic entitled "Medical Marijuana Versus a Drug Free Workplace." She explained how a prescription for medical marijuana is not a green light for use in the workplace, as well as how Pennsylvania's new medical marijuana law will affect workplace drug policies.

Bruder, a former staffer to former Gov. Tom Corbett and an attorney in the Government Relations, Labor & Employment, and Public Sector practice groups at McNees, presented, "The Latest on Government Relations." She gave the status of what is transpiring inside the State capitol and how it affects clients. The session provided updates about state government activities involving budget agreements and negotiations, legislation that implements tax changes, reductions in state government, and changes in how state government works.

Santucci, chair of McNees' Public Sector practice group, presented "Reasonable Suspicion Drug and Alcohol Policy & Procedures." He discussed employee drug testing in the workplace and how to handle reasonable suspicion cases, identifying the symptoms, required documentation, collection, safety versus liability, results, required record keeping, and policies that should be in place to promote workplace safety.



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