# BS&K Statewide Labor and Employment Law Breakfast Briefing Series

Albany The Desmond

**Batavia** The BEST Center @ Genesee Community College

Binghamton Holiday Inn Arena

Buffalo Hyatt Regency

Corning Radisson Hotel

Melville Melville Marriott

Kingston Holiday Inn Kingston

New York City BS&K New York Office

Rochester Woodcliff Hotel

Syracuse S.U. Sheraton

Attorney Advertising

# Solving the HR Puzzle

SESSION ONE The Nuances (Old and New) of New York Labor and Employment Laws

SESSION TWO Downsizing, Rightsizing, Reductions-in-Force: A Rose by Any Other Name is Still Employment Loss

# **SESSION THREE**

Drafting Effective Internet and Electronic Workplace Policies – Blogs, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and MySpace

# **SESSION FOUR**

How the Obama Administration is Changing the Landscape for Employers

> BOND, SCHOENECK & KING, PLLC ATTORNEYS AT LAW • NEW YORK FLORIDA KANSAS



### SERIES SCHEDULE

#### Albany The Desmond

Session 1: November 17, 2009 Session 2: December 7, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

## Batavia • The BEST Center @

**Genesee Community College** Session 1: November 18, 2009 Session 2: December 16, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Binghamton Holiday Inn Arena

Session 1: November 12, 2009 Session 2: December 8, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Buffalo Hyatt Regency

Session 1: November 11, 2009 Session 2: December 8, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Corning • Radisson Hotel Session 1: November 10, 2009 Session 2: December 10, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

Melville • Melville Marriott Session 1: November 11, 2009 Session 2: December 4, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Kingston - Holiday Inn Kingston

Session 1: November 18, 2009 Session 2: December 3, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### New York City = BS&K NY Office

Session 1: November 13, 2009 Session 2: December 8, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Rochester Woodcliff Hotel

Session 1: November 13, 2009 Session 2: December 4, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

#### Syracuse S.U. Sheraton

Session 1: November 6, 2009 Session 2: December 15, 2009 Session 3: January 2010 Session 4: February 2010

## **OVERVIEW**

BS&K's Statewide Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation, and Immigration Law Practice is pleased to continue its on-going program of providing Senior Executives, General Counsel, and HR Professionals with timely insight and information concerning the ever-shifting landscape in the employment environment. The following four topics will offer a thorough review of major areas that concern and currently affect the workplace.

#### **HRCI** Recertification Credit

These programs have been submitted to the HR Certification Institute.

## AGENDA

Please note time difference between Downstate and Upstate locations.

## DOWNSTATE

#### Garden City / New York City

8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Program

## UPSTATE

#### All Other Cities

8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Program

## SESSION ONE The Nuances (Old and New) of New York Labor and Employment Laws

There are many aspects of New York State labor and employment law (old and new) that are unique, not readily discernible, and often counterintuitive. At this breakfast briefing, we will shine the light on these many nuances and review successful employer options for compliance. The areas to be covered include:

- 1. New Statutes (2008-2009)
  - A. Criminal Conviction Issues
  - B. Base Rate and Overtime Notification
  - C. Commission Sales Requirements
  - D. Human Rights Law Changes (domestic violence protection and enhanced monetary remedies)
- 2. Special Notice and Other Requirements for Policies and Handbooks
  - A. Vacation
  - B. Sick and Personal Leave
  - C. Wages
  - D. Discipline
  - E. Employment Application
- 3. New York EEO Law
  - A. State Division of Human Rights Law (coverage, aider and abettor, individual liability)
  - B. New York City Human Rights Law
    - 1. Coverage
    - 2. Special harassment issues
    - 3. Differences from state and federal law

SESSION TWO Downsizing, Rightsizing, Reductions-in-Force: A Rose by Any Other Name is Still Employment Loss

Recently, the U.S. unemployment rate hit a 26-year high. Employers faced with the lingering effects of last year's unprecedented downturn continue to modify their employment levels.

At this breakfast briefing, we will cover:

- 1. The mistakes employers have made, and can make, when they impose furloughs.
- 2. The various phases of a successful reduction-in-force.
- 3. The do's and don'ts of using the various tools of risk management in a RIF (e.g., effective separation agreements, voluntary retirement programs, lawful selection criteria).
- 4. Unemployment Insurance issues.
- 5. Federal and State Warn Act issues.

## SESSION THREE Drafting Effective Internet and Electronic Workplace Policies – Blogs, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and MySpace

The evolution of our electronic world has greatly impacted the workplace. Blackberries, iPhones, cell phones with cameras, GPS devices, laptops, etc. have increased productivity and have spawned an explosion in on-line social networking. The use of these networks by employees offer potential value to employers and, at the same time, expose an employer to serious risk if abused.

This briefing session will explore the potential value of these changes, e.g., in using those sites to defend litigation, recruit, gather background information, and market. We will also explore the potential dangers, e.g., discovering protected activity or characteristics, defamation claims, privacy breaches, negligence, harassment, intellectual property issues, confidentiality, etc.

The ultimate goal is to enable employers to identify and assess the values and risks to their organization and draft appropriate policies to address and manage the new technology and social media. SESSION FOUR How the Obama Administration is Changing the Landscape for Employers

The Obama Administration has already appointed key Agency personnel and made dramatic legislative changes that favor organized labor and employees. More are planned over the next few months. Employers need to understand how these changes are likely to impact their workforce and determine how best to adapt and react to the changes.

We have scheduled this briefing for February 2010. However, depending on legislative or other developments, we reserve the right to move this briefing to an earlier date, in place of one already scheduled or change it to a seminar of a half or full day. Current topics include:

- 1. Status of health care reform and what it means for employers.
- The Employee Free Choice Act

   Labor Law Reform by the Democrats and the AFL-CIO.
- 3. The new members of the National Labor Relations Board and the expected agenda.
- 4. One year later -- key court decisions interpreting The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.
- 5. Status of other legislation and Executive Orders.

# Announcing Our New Labor and Employment Law Blog

We recently launched the first management-focused online blog dedicated to labor and employment law issues affecting both large and small employers with operations in New York State. We invite you to visit and subscribe via RSS feed/email alert at **www.nylaborandemploymentlawreport.com**. Current blog postings include:

- New York Federal Court Dismisses Donning and Doffing Collective Action
- Questions to Avoid During the Hiring Process

# BS&K's Statewide Labor and Employment Law Breakfast Briefing Series Registration

# Register online at www.bsk.com

or complete and return the registration form below. Please RSVP 10 days prior to seminar.

# **Registration Fees (per program)**

BS&K Clients – \$25.00 General Public – \$35.00

For those HR Professionals who are between positions, we would like to offer "comps" to these seminars.

## **Dates and Locations**

Please indicate choice(s) of November and December dates. January and February dates to follow.

Albany Session I: Nov. 17, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 7, 2009 The Desmond Hotel & Conference Center 660 Albany-Shaker Road 518-869-8100	Batavia Session 1: Nov. 18, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 16, 2009 The BEST Center @ Genesee Community College One College Road 585-345-6868	Binghamton Session 1: Nov. 12, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 8, 2009 Holiday Inn Arena 2-8 Hawley Street 607-722-1212	Buffalo Session 1: Nov. 11, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 8, 2009 Hyatt Regency Two Fountain Plaza 716-856-1234	Corning Session 1: Nov. 10, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 10, 2009 The Radisson Hotel Corning 125 Denison Parkway East 607-962-5000
Melville Session 1: Nov. 11, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 4, 2009 Melville Marriott Long Island 1350 Old Walt Whitman Road 631-673-4325	Kingston Session 1: Nov. 18, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 3, 2009 Holiday Inn Kingston 503 Washington Avenue 845-338-0400	New York City <ul> <li>Session 1: Nov. 13, 2009</li> <li>Session 2: Dec. 8, 2009</li> <li>BS&amp;K New York Office</li> <li>330 Madison Avenue</li> <li>646-253-2300</li> </ul>	Rochester Session 1: Nov. 13, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 4, 2009 Woodcliff Hotel & Spa 199 Woodcliff Drive Fairport 800-365-3065	Syracuse Session 1: Nov. 6, 2009 Session 2: Dec. 15, 2009 Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center 801 University Avenue 800-395-2105
Name:		Title:		
Organization:				
Address:				
City:	State:		Zip:	
E-Mail:	Telephone:		Fax:	
The following people will also attend:				
Name:	Title:		E-Mail:	
Name:	Title:		E-Mail:	
Name:	Title:		E-Mail:	

Refunds will only be made for cancellations received no fewer than 5 business days before event.

Register online at www.bsk.com or complete and return the registration form to: Ms. Toko Moyo, Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, One Lincoln Center, Syracuse, NY 13202 Fax: 315-218-8100 Questions: 1-800-339-8897 E-mail: tmoyo@bsk.com Please make checks payable to Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC.

This seminar is intended for the invited guests of Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, who reserves the right to deny admission to any applicant.