

BUSINESS IN 2025

WEEKLY WEBINAR SERIES



2027
2026
2025
2024
2023
2022

Your Host



Gabriel S. Oberfield

Member

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Today's Agenda

Gabe Oberfield – (12:00PM-12:10PM)

- Welcome and Agenda
- End-of-Year Bill Signings and Vetoes in New York

Jeff Gleason – (12:10PM-12:20PM)

- Casinos Approved — Now, What?

Jeremy Sher – (12:20PM-12:30PM)

- A Federal Case with School Law Implications: *Vitsaxaki v. Skaneateles Cent. Sch. Dist.*, 2d Cir., No. 25-952, oral argument 12/2/25

G. Oberfield – (12:30PM)

- Questions / 2026 Scheduling
- Wrap Up

What's New in Gov't and Reg Affairs

- **New Municipal Administrations Forming:**
 - Work of transition committees underway in cities across NYS
- **NYS Bill Signing Season**
 - More than 800 bills decided upon this year as 2025 moves to close
 - **Recent Approvals (including with forthcoming chapter amendments)**
 - Further expansion of state law re: gender-affirming and reproductive care
 - Medical Aid in Dying
 - Justice system oversight
 - Regulation of Kratom drug products
 - AI activity – e.g., safety, intellectual property rights
 - FAIR Business Practices Act
 - Elimination of the “100-foot-rule” for customers’ subsidization of new natural gas hookups
- **Recent Vetoes**
 - Grieving Families Act (4th year in a row)
 - NYS health information bill (“New York Health Information Privacy Act”)
 - Requiring LLCs to enhance transparency re: ownership structures
- **2026 NYS Gubernatorial Race**
 - Rep. Elise Stefanik exits race, plans to leave Congress
 - Nassau County Executive Blakeman receives President Trump’s endorsement



NYS Gov. Kathy Hochul
Credit: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/>

New Casinos Approved – Now What?



Jeffrey P. Gleason

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Recap

- Commercial casinos authorized by a 2013 referendum
- NYS Fiscal Year 2023 Budget accelerated the timeline for issuance of three downstate casino licenses
- Gaming Facility Location Board formed – October 3, 2022
- Request for Applications – Jan. 3, 2023
- Potential bidders presented plans to local planning and zoning boards Jan. through June 2025
- Casino license applications submitted by June 27, 2025
- GFLB recommended awarding all three licenses December 1, 2025
- NYS Gaming Commission awarded the three licenses December 15, 2025

And the winners are...

- Resorts World New York City – The Genting Group
 - 15-year license for development at Aqueduct
- Bally's New York Casino – Bally's Corporation
 - 15-year license for development of former Trump Golf Course in Throggs Neck (Bronx)
- Metropolitan Park – Steve Cohen and Hard Rock International
 - 20-year license for multi-acre resort near Citi Field in Queens

What's next?

- Licenses contingent on third-party monitoring agreement
 - Gaming Commission approved licenses subject to each awardee agreeing to sign a monitoring agreement with an independent third party to ensure that their development projects do not deviate from the standards set by the State and delivers on the community promises made by each applicant over the next 5 years
 - Third party monitor must be approved by Gaming Commission, report quarterly
- Payment of \$500 million license fees
- Resorts World – targeting March 2026 opening
- Bally's and Metropolitan Park – anticipated opening by 2030
- Litigation?

A Federal Case with School Law Implications: Vitsaxaki v. Skaneateles Central School District



Jeremy M. Sher

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Vitsaxaki's Claims

- School policy requires the District to honor students' requests regarding names, pronouns, and whether to inform parents
- Plaintiff withdrew her seventh-grade child from the District after learning that it used a different name and they/them pronouns for Plaintiff's child without Plaintiff's knowledge or consent
- Plaintiff claimed the policy violated her constitutional rights to free exercise of religion (First Amendment) and to raise her child (Fourteenth Amendment)

Dismissal in the District Court

- Judge Hurd in the Northern District of New York dismissed the complaint for failure to state a claim
- Judge Hurd found that Plaintiff did not have constitutional notice and consent rights regarding the District's gender policy
- The gender policy received and satisfied rational basis review

Argument at the Second Circuit

- After Plaintiff appealed the dismissal to the Second Circuit, the Supreme Court decided *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, which held that a district violates parents' free exercise rights if its curriculum for young children interferes with parents' religious upbringing of their children
- The Second Circuit held an hour and a half of argument, focusing on whether parents have a constitutional right to notice and consent if their children engage in conduct contrary to parents' religious or secular beliefs

Weekly Webinar: Year in Review & Year Ahead

Join us each Tuesday in January as we:

- Look back at the highlights, milestones, and lessons from this past year.
- Look forward to continuing to bring you timely insights and updates that matter most to your organization.

Workplace 2026

Annual Labor & Employment Law Conference

Date	Location
Thursday, June 11, 2026	Albany
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Corning
Thursday, June 25, 2026	Long Island
Thursday, June 18, 2026	New York City
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Rochester
Tuesday, June 23, 2026	Saratoga Springs
Thursday, May 28, 2026	Syracuse
Tuesday, June 9, 2026	Westchester

Registration for all programs will be available starting Spring 2026

Questions?



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Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

To combat harassment in the workplace, every New York State employer must provide harassment prevention training for all employees annually.

For more information on Bond's online sexual harassment training [click here](#) or email bondonline@bsk.com

Thank You

The information in this presentation is intended as general background information.

It is not to be considered as legal advice.

Laws can change often, and information may become outdated.

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