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A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR AND DEAN EMERITUS JOHN J. SCIULLO

Articles

THE LAW OF CIVIL COMMITMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA: TOWARDS A
CONSISTENT INTERPRETATION OF THE MENTAL HEALTH PROCEDURES
ACT

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Pennsylvania courts inconsistently interpret the Pennsylvania Mental Health Procedures Act, which governs the issue of whether a doctor can recommend that an individual be involuntarily committed to the psychiatric ward of a hospital. The author submits that mental health review officers in urban centers tend to interpret the statute's "clear and present danger standard" much more narrowly than do officers in rural centers. The author proposes a consistent interpretation based on the plain language of the statute, such that the clear and present danger need not always be evidenced by threats of harm and acts in furtherance of those threats.

THE CONVERGENCE OF THINKING, TALKING, AND WRITING: A
THEORY FOR IMPROVING WRITING

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The author's longstanding method of improving a law student's legal writing is to encourage the student to "talk-out" what the student is trying to write. The author finds support for that method by exploring the relationship among thinking, talking, and writing through the work of experts in those fields. The author concludes that the best way to find the overlap of thinking, talking, and writing, which is the point of effective communications, is to talk-out what one is writing.

THE IMPROPRIETY OF LEVYING PUNITIVE DAMAGES ON INNOCENT
SUCCESSOR CORPORATIONS

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Under traditional corporate law principles regarding the liability of a successor corporation for the debts and liabilities of the previous entity, there are many scenarios where an innocent successor may be held liable for a punitive damages award levied against the previous entity. After a comprehensive examination of the methods by which businesses combine, and an analysis of the history and purposes of punitive damages, the author argues that courts should focus on both the successor's conduct and the form of the method of combination before levying punitive damages against the successor.

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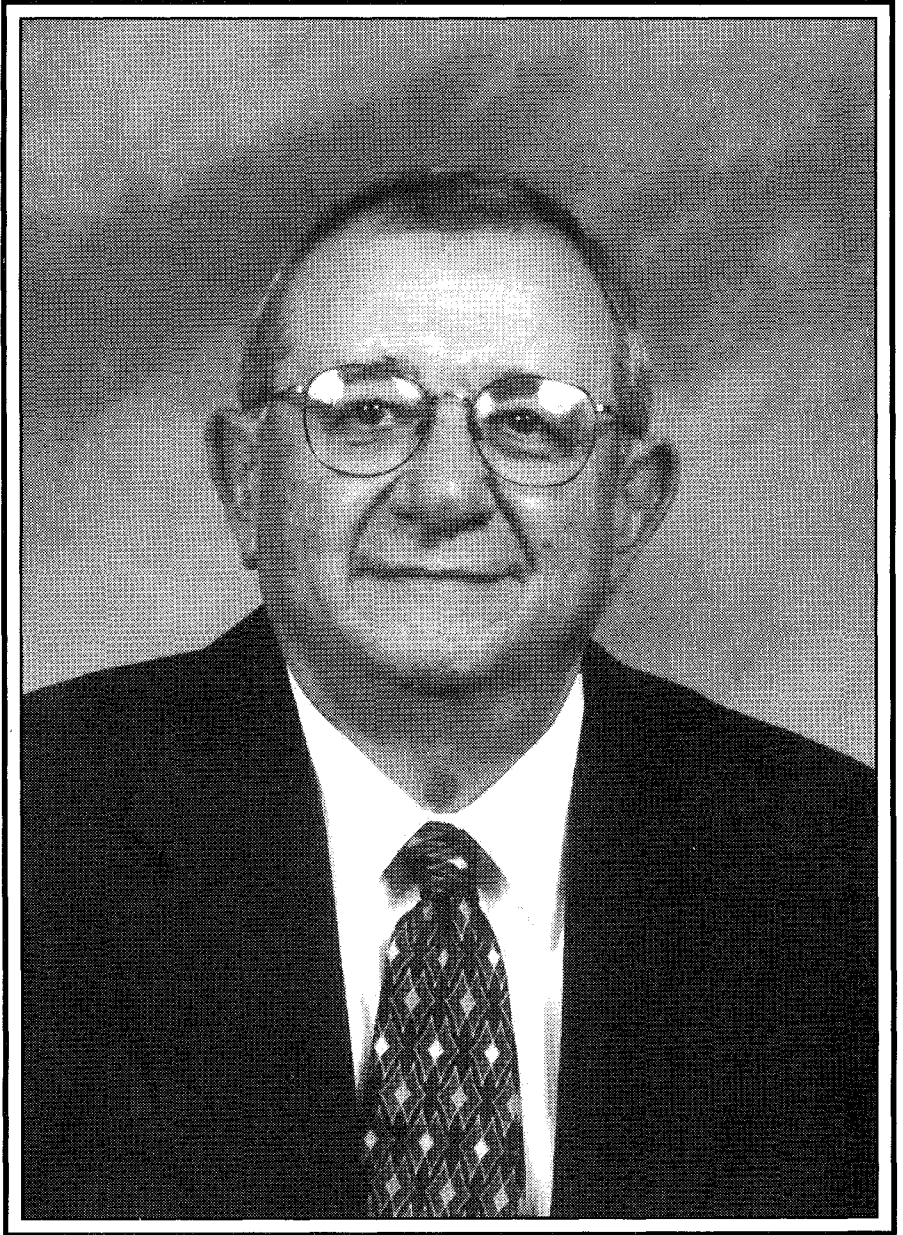
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