

In The Spotlight with: Attorney Kathryn A. Belfance

By Kate Feeks

In November watch for the next episode of *Law Talk*, hosted by John Celebrezze. This episode features Attorney Kathryn Belfance of Roderick, Linton & Belfance, LLP who talks about bankruptcy. The show can be viewed on Wadsworth Cable (WCTV) Public Access, Channel 15, Brunswick Area Television (BAT) Public Access, Channel 21, and Armstrong Cable Access, Channel 37.

Driven is exactly how this guest has lived her life. As a young mother of three with a deep desire to attend law school, Kathryn Belfance never took “no” for an answer. “When you really want something in life keep going until you find a way to have exactly what you want,” said Belfance. For the past thirty years she has positioned herself for success. She has never shied away from a challenge. “We all have challenges... put aside your fears...” Belfance emphasized.

Kathryn Belfance is now with Roderick, Linton & Belfance, LLP. In 1977 she started her own law practice where she practiced bankruptcy, real estate, personal injury, and contract law. “Bankruptcy is an area that touches on many different kinds of law ...” explained Belfance.

In discussing her role as a bankruptcy trustee, she explained that trustees are appointed by an officer of the United States Department of Justice. In 1978 Belfance was appointed as one of the first female trustees to administer cases in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Ohio. In every case filed in that Court there is a trustee is appointed. While each bankruptcy plan is different, a trustee attempts to gather assets to liquidate, while ensuring that the debtor’s plan will continue to run efficiently.

While raising three children, Belfance attended law school, eventually receiving her degree from the University of Akron. Aside from bankruptcy, she also distinguished herself in the field of domestic relations, an area where she has been invited to speak on a variety of topics. In September 2007, a scholarship fund was named for her on her 70th birthday. The fund, called The Kathryn A. Belfance Scholarship Fund, is designated for women who are members of the editorial staff of the Akron Law Review. Specifically, the award is for women who exhibit financial need with preference to those who are mothers balancing the demands of home life and academic success. The scholarship committee at the University selects the recipients. The scholarship award may cover tuition fees and books, all or part.

To learn more about bankruptcy law with Kathryn Belfance, watch for her interview with John Celebrezze on *Law Talk* throughout the month of November on our local cable network and You Tube.