

Susan Kohlmann Reflects on Challenges and Successes as New York City Bar President

News

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In an exclusive feature for *Law360* Pulse, Partner Susan Kohlmann discusses her two years at the helm of the “extraordinary” New York City Bar Association.

Taking the role in 2022, during the pandemic, Susan describes overcoming her first challenge: getting lawyers back to the Bar with a delicate balance between in-person events and remote programming.

As the article explains, Susan served as a hands-on leader: reviewing reports from Bar committees, helping organize programs, lobbying governments, and advocating for policy changes. The Bar’s all-day event on hate speech represented an achievement because it fostered an environment that is important to Susan.

“The bar can truly play a role for people with very diverse views to come together and understand, at least, what the guardrails are,” she tells *Law360*.

She urged lawyers to use their voices to support initiatives that are threatened in the current legal landscape. “Lawyers are uniquely situated and have an obligation to speak out loudly and clearly when our institutions are under attack.

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