

ABA DIVISION FOR BAR SERVICES

Miscellaneous *Memo*



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ABA Partnership Awards Program Now Accepting Applications, Program Aims to Recognize Programs that Increase Diversity - Applications Due May 13

The ABA Partnership Awards Program has been rededicated to support of the American Bar Association's diversity initiative. Through this recognition program, the ABA hopes to encourage the replication of laudatory efforts by bar associations to increase the participation of lawyers of color in the organized bar and to attract students of color to the legal profession. The deadline for submissions is May 13. To fill out an online application, please visit www.abanet.org/barserv/partnership.html

Bar associations are encouraged to submit programs for consideration that accomplish three main goals:

- Increases diversity in the legal profession
- Shows evidence of forming partnerships with other organizations to achieve this objective
- Provides a model that other organizations can readily replicate.

A panel of judges from the sponsoring organizations - the ABA Standing Committee on Bar Activities and Services, Hispanic National Bar Association, National Asian-Pacific American Bar Association, National Native American Bar Association and the National Bar Association - will review all program submissions

For more information, please contact Roseanne Lucianek, Director, ABA Division for Bar Services, at 312/988-5344, or lucianekr@staff.abanet.org.

Solo and Small Firm Subgrant Program Taking Applications

The deadline for the ABA Standing Committee on Solo and Small Firm Practitioners' Solo and Small Firm Services Subgrant Program is rapidly approaching. The subgrant program provides seed money to bar entities for member services specifically targeted to solo and small firm practitioners with a focus on helping them provide quality legal services. The application deadline is Wednesday, April 30, 2003.

Judging will be based on the submission of well-developed proposals that demonstrate a need for the project and the potential to make an impact.

Applications must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2003 and subgrant

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winners will be announced at the 2003 ABA Annual Meeting. You can also fill out the application online by going to www.abanet.org/solo/subgrant.html. For more information, please contact Renne Lugo at lugar@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5461.

2003 NABE Luminary Awards Now Accepting Applications

The 2003 Luminary Award contest is now open and accepting applications. The Luminaries are given annually to recognize "the best of the best" among National Association of Bar Executives communication initiatives. For more information and to enter the competition, please visit www.dcbbar.org/luminary. While the entry form is on the Web, the contest is not completely paperless - accompanying materials must be submitted via postal mail and postmarked no later than June 2, 2003.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Excellence in Publications, Regular and Special
- Excellence in Public Relations
- Excellence in Web Sites
- Excellence in Marketing (New Category)

Awards go to members of bar associations in three size categories, so small bars compete against small bars, etc. Please enter or encourage your staff to do so.

If you have questions or need more information about this year's contest, please contact Mark Mathewson at mmathew@isba.org or 217/747-1419.

NABE Offering Scholarships

The National Association of Bar Executives (NABE) is offering three \$500 scholarships to assist bar association executives to cover the costs of attending the 2003 Annual Meeting that will be held in San Francisco in August. These \$500 scholarships can be used to defray travel and lodging expenses and are in addition to a waiver of the Annual Meeting registration fee for each scholarship recipient. The deadline date is April 30. For more information, please contact Scholarship Committee Chairperson Steve Henderson at 805/650-759 for more information.

Margaret Brent Award Winners Announced

Five women from across the nation were selected to receive the 2003 Margaret Brent Award, which recognizes women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence and have paved the way for success for other women lawyers. The recipients of the award will be honored at a luncheon at the 2003 ABA Annual Meeting, which is being held in San Francisco in August.

The winners are:

Judge Cissy Daughtrey - Court of Appeals, Nashville, TN
Charlye Farris - practitioner, Wichita Falls, TX
Joanne Garvey - practitioner, San Francisco, CA

Colleen Khoury - Dean of the U. of Maine School of Law

Michele Coleman Mayes - General Counsel, Pitney Bowes, Stamford, CT

For more information about the award, please visit www.abanet.org/women/.

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2004 Bar Leadership Institute Dates Set

The dates for the 2004 Bar Leadership Institute have been set. The meeting will take place March 11 - 13, 2004 in Chicago, IL. Like the 2003 event, the program will begin on Thursday, March 11 and continue through Friday, March 12. Optional programming will be available on Saturday, March 13.

For more information about the BLI, please visit www.abanet.org/barserv/bli.html.

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U.S. Supreme Court Rules In Favor of IOLTA

In a very close decision, the U.S. Supreme Court announced late last month that IOLTA programs do not violate the Fifth Amendment. The case, *Brown v. Legal Foundation of Washington*, (01-1325) 271 F.3d 835, was decided in a close 5-4 vote. For more information about the ruling, please visit the ABA's IOLTA Commission at www.abanet.org/legalservices/iolta/home.html. Additional coverage is also available in *Legal Services Now*, which is located at www.abanet.org/legalservices/sclaid/lisn.html

Model Definition of the Practice of Law Completes Report

The Task Force on the Model Definition of the Practice of Law has completed its report and recommendation. The task force recommends that every jurisdiction adopt a definition of the practice of law and that each jurisdiction's definition should include the basic premise that the practice of law is the application of legal principles and judgment to the circumstances or objectives of another person or entity.

In addition, the report recommends that each jurisdiction determine who may provide services that are included within the jurisdiction's definition of the practice of law and under what circumstances, based upon the potential harm and benefit to the public; and that the determination include consideration of minimum qualifications, competence and accountability. The full report is posted at www.abanet.org/cpr/model_def_home.html. For more information, please contact Art Garwin at 312/988-5294 or agarwin@staff.abanet.org

Judicial Independence Issues - Campaigning, Compensation and Administration of Justice - Will Be Addressed at Annual Meeting

The Standing Committee on Judicial Independence, in conjunction with the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, will present recommendations to the ABA House of Delegates at this year's Annual Meeting that amend the ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct. The primary recommendations amend provisions of Canon 5 related to political campaign speech of judges. The recommendations also propose the addition of a definition of "impartiality" to the terminology section of the Model Code. The project was developed by the Working Group on the First Amendment and Judicial Campaigns, formed by the Standing Committee on Judicial Independence in September 2001. For further information about the Working Group's recommendations, please contact Eileen Gallagher, at the ABA Standing Committee on Federal Judicial Improvements at 312/988-5105 or

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gallaghE@staff.abanet.org.

The Standing Committee on Judicial Independence will also present recommendations on state judicial compensation to the ABA House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. The subcommittee on state judicial compensation, chaired by Douglas G. Houser of Portland, Oregon, is recommending that states implement independent commissions to determine compensation levels for state judges. For further information about the recommendations on state judicial compensation, please contact Seth Andersen at the ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence, at 312/988-5124 or anderses@staff.abanet.org.

Finally, ABA President Alfred P. Carlton, Jr., appointed a blue-ribbon commission to study and make recommendations to improve the administration of justice in the 21st Century. After a year long study, the commission identified eight enduring principles to guide state judiciaries and found several trends affecting the capacity of state judiciaries to comport with those principles. To that end, the commission offers over twenty recommendations to ensure that state judiciaries remain capable of providing fair and equitable justice in the 21st century. For more information about the work of the commission, please contact Luke Bierman at the ABA Justice Center, phone 312/988-5102, or biermanL@staff.abanet.org.

Judicial Division Summit Drafts Resolution Urging Judges to Take Active Role in Public Education

Participants at the Judicial Division Summit on Judicial Outreach, a Judges Network program co-sponsored by the ABA Justice Center, crafted a consensus resolution that encourages judges, courts and judicial organizations to consider it part of a judge's duty to develop, support and actively participate in public education programs about the law and justice system. The resolution, approved by the Judicial Division Council at their meeting in Seattle, seeks to further the public's understanding of and confidence in the American system of justice in addition to maintaining an independent judiciary. To view the proposed resolution and learn more about the summit, visit the Judges Network Web site at: www.abanet.org/jd/judgesnetwork.html. For more information about the Judges Network contact Teri Curro at currot@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5689.

Armed Forces Personnel Will Need Legal Help as War Ends

As the war in Iraq appears to be leveling off and members of the U.S. Armed Forces return home, the need for legal help will only increase. Returning service personnel, including 200,000 members of the reserve currently deployed, will face complex legal questions. To help, bars are encouraged to participate in Operation Enduring LAMP, which aims to educate lawyers about issues facing soldiers and their families.

For more information on Operation Enduring LAMP, including training resources for interested pro bono lawyers, visit the Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel's Operation Enduring LAMP Web site at www.abanet.org/legalservices/helpreservists.

Baton Rouge Bar Association Wins ASAE Award

The Baton Rouge Bar Association is one of seven organizations that were honored in early April with the Award of Excellence in the 2003 Associations Advance America (AAA) Awards program, sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). The award recognizes associations and industry partners that advance American society with innovative programs in education, skills training, standard setting, business and social innovation, knowledge creation, citizenship and community service. The Baton Rouge bar won the award because of its 2002 Law Day events. For information about the award, please visit www.asaenet.org/AAA/AAAawards/

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Charlene Andrews has been promoted to the position of Associate Executive Director of the Ventura County Bar Association (CA). Ms. Andrews has been employed by the VCBA since March 1997 directing the bar's LRIS, Fee Arbitration Program and the Pro Bono Program.

Caren Chopp, formerly with the ABA's Litigation Section, has joined the Indianapolis Bar Association as Pro Bono and Legal Services Director. She can be reached at cchopp@indybar.org. Caren replaces **Mariateresa Carrelli** who is returning to the practice of law.

Richard Feinberg has left the executive director's position at the Long Beach (CA) Bar Association. **Linda Kulakowski** is serving as interim executive director.

Carol Stefanek is serving as Interim Executive Director of the Dayton Bar Association due to the recent passing of **Bernard Raverty**. Ms. Stefanek has been with the Dayton Bar Association for the past 23 years.

John Morris Williams is the new executive director at the Oklahoma Bar Association. He can be reached at johnw@okbar.org.

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Misconduct Handbook, Video Distributed by ABA Standing Committee on Professional Discipline

Judges are in an excellent position to observe misconduct and to identify it as such. For over a decade, the American Bar Association, through its Standing Committee on Professional Discipline, has offered its Judicial Response to Misconduct program. The Discipline Committee has conducted over 66 programs in over 31 jurisdictions to educate judges and lawyers about the judiciary's authority and obligations to uphold the standards of the legal profession.

The Judicial Response to Misconduct program, sponsored by the Standing Committee on Professional Discipline, is designed to assist judges in observing and cracking down on lawyer misconduct. The program consists of a comprehensive handbook, videotape and a discussion guide for use at local, regional, statewide or national levels. The handbook includes memoranda and case digests surveying recent developments in various areas of lawyer and judicial misconduct. The handbook also provides judges and lawyers with guidance regarding the sanctioning and reporting of instances of misconduct. The videotape uses vignettes to demonstrate when reporting ethical missteps by lawyers and judges to the appropriate authorities is warranted. The Standing Committee on Professional Discipline produced the videotape, handbook and discussion guide with grant funds provided by the State Justice Institute. For information about scheduling a presentation of the Judicial Response to Misconduct, please contact ABA Regulation Counsel Mary M. Devlin at devlinm@staff.abanet.org or ABA Associate Regulation Counsel Ellyn S. Rosen at rosene@staff.abanet.org.

ABA - CLE Partners with 27 State and Local Bars to Deliver National CLE

The ABA Center for CLE, through the American Law Network, delivers national Satellite Seminar CLE programming to over 27 state and local bar downlink sites. These partnerships generate revenue for their associations in the form of royalties, which range from flat fees to 40% of gross revenue, depending on local promotional efforts.

As a benefit to members, the network brings national speakers to the local level at low cost with no travel. For example, the February 2003 Employee Benefits Update Satellite Seminar, originating in Washington, D.C., featured top officials from the I.R.S, Treasury, Labor, PBGC, HHS and EEOC discussing recent legislative and regulatory developments. The programs also provide a foundation for local discussion.

The center also offers Distance Learning opportunities through its ABA-CLE

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Forum using videoconferencing and teleconferencing equipment to deliver CLE. Collaboration opportunities are also available.

For more information, please contact Annette Cook, at ABA - CLE, at 312/988-6203 or acook@staff.abanet.org.

Bar Leadership Institute Manual Now Available

The 2003 Bar Leadership Institute Manual, distributed at the Bar Leadership Institute, is an excellent source of reference material for any bar leader. The manual includes materials on leadership, governance, finance, communications, committees and sections, membership, and additional resources. To order, please call the ABA Service Center at 800/285-2221 and ask for product code 171-0085-03ED. The price \$40.00, quantity discounts are available.

ABA Publishing Book Distributor Discount Program Exclusively for State, Local and Specialty Bar Associations

Your bar association can save 40% on select ABA publications by participating in the ABA Publishing Book Distributor Discount Program. The program is targeted exclusively to bar associations and gives you the opportunity to generate additional revenue, enhance CLE programming or increase the value of your association membership.

One publication available through this program is *Paralegals, Profitability, and the Future of Your Law Practice*.

This book includes not only chapters on how to recruit and hire paralegals and implement an effective paralegal program, but it also discusses trends in the legal profession and changes in the law, and how the use of paralegals fits into these changes. In addition, the authors explain the advantages of using paralegals, how best to utilize them in various practice settings, the ethical considerations involved, preparation for the future, and more.

For a complete listing of titles available through this program, go to www.ababooks.org.

For detailed information on the program please visit or, to place an order, contact Jill Nuppenau at 312 988-5764, or e-mail: nuppenaj@staff.abanet.org.



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