

ABA DIVISION FOR BAR SERVICES

Miscellaneous *Memo*



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Bar Leadership Institute Update and Registration Information

The 2004 Bar Leadership Institute is quickly approaching, but registration is still open for interested bar leaders and executives. The BLI is a "must attend" for presidents-elect of bar associations and other presidential-track officers. The BLI is scheduled for March 11 - March 13, 2004 at the Chicago Downtown Marriott. The program will feature plenary sessions and workshops over leadership, bar finances and government and other topics. To register, please visit www.abanet.org/barserv/bli.html for more information.

The keynote speaker will be John Powers, an expert on leadership and motivation. Mr. Power's Web site can be found at www.johnpowers.com.

ABA Unveils Legislative Priorities for 2004

ABA President Dennis Archer has announced the top ABA legislative and governmental priorities for 2004. The ABA Board of Governors finalized the 12 issues that will serve as the focus for the 2004 year during the ABA Midyear Meeting in February. To view a note from President Archer as well as a summary of the priorities, please visit the links below

The introductory memo from President Archer can be found at www.abanet.org/barserv/legmemo04.pdf

The priorities can be found at www.abanet.org/barserv/legpriorities04.pdf

If you have any questions concerning the ABA legislative program, please contact Bob Evans, the Director of the Washington Office, at 202/662-1765 or rdevans@staff.abanet.org

ABA Adopts Electronic Filing Standard, Urges Implementation

The ABA House of Delegates adopted Standard 1.65, titled, "Court Use of Electronic Filing Processes" at the 2004 ABA Midyear Meeting. The standard states that because of the benefits to the courts, the bar and the public from the use of electronic records, courts should implement electronic filing processes. In doing so, the courts should follow certain general principles, adopt rules and implement

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electronic filing processes. The promulgation of this standard marks the transition of electronic filing from an experimental process to an operational reality for America's state and federal courts. The guidance for court policies and rules are based on the experience of hundreds of state and federal courts - and their local and state bars -- that have been using electronic records since the first project began in Delaware in 1991. The standard can be viewed at www.abanet.org/jd/pdf/standard_1_65.pdf. For more information, please contact Kris Berliant at 312/988-5700 or berliank@staff.abanet.org

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Bar Leaders Being Sought For Awards

The ABA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section is seeking applications for two awards. The annual Bar Leader Award recognizes the significant contributions of a bar leader who currently serves or has served as an officer of a general practice, solo practice, or small firm entity. The section is looking for an individual who has truly made a difference over the course of his/her leadership. Any lawyer who wishes to nominate another lawyer (who fits the above criteria) may do so.

The Solo and Small Firm Project Award is designed to reward bar leaders and associations for their successful projects specifically targeted to solo and small firm lawyers. Any state, local, women's, minority, or specialty bar is eligible to submit an application. Applications must be submitted (online) or postmarked no later than April 30, 2004.

The winner of each award will receive a plaque, reimbursement of some travel expenses to the section's Fall Meeting in October in Los Angeles and publicity. Last year's winners included Melissa DeLacerda, president of the Oklahoma Bar Association (Bar Leader Award), and the Lake County Bar Association's "Meet Your Judge" Program (Solo and Small Firm Project Award)

For more information visit the section's Web site at www.abanet.org/genpractice. To apply for Annual Bar Leader Award online, please visit www.abanet.org/genpractice/awards/leaderapl.html. The Solo and Small Firm Project Award nomination form can be found at www.abanet.org/genpractice/awards/projectapl.html.

If you have additional questions contact the section's staff offices at 312/988-5648 or at genpractice@abanet.org.

NABE Now Accepting Nominations for 3 Awards

The National Association of Bar Executives' board is now considering applications for three awards - the Bolton Award for Professional Excellence, the Partners in Success Award, and the LexisNexis Community & Educational Outreach Awards. Nominations are due by April 9. These awards are an excellent way to acknowledge a fellow bar executive or to highlight a successful outreach program at your bar association.

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The nomination form for the LexisNexis Community & Educational Award can be found at www.abanet.org/nabe/awards/outreach.pdf.

The nomination form for the 2004 Partners in Success Award can be found at www.abanet.org/nabe/awards/outreach.pdf.

The nomination form for the Bolton Award can be found at www.abanet.org/nabe/awards/bolton.pdf.

For more information, please contact Jill Werner at 312/988-6008 or wernerj@staff.abanet.org.

Gambrell Professionalism Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the Fourteenth Annual E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards, recognizing projects that enhance professionalism among lawyers. Bar associations, law schools, law firms and other not-for-profit law related organizations are eligible for the awards.

The ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism, a component of the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, will present up to three awards of \$3,500 each during the 2004 ABA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA. Award criteria include overall quality, replicability, likelihood of continuation, innovation, success, substantive strength in the area of professionalism, scope and other distinguishing features of the applicant programs.

The deadline for entries is March 31, 2004. Entry forms, guidelines and information about previous award recipients are available online at www.abanet.org/cpr/gambrell.html. Questions regarding the awards should be directed to Kathleen Maher at 312/988-5307 or maherk@staff.abanet.org.

2004 John Marshall Award Seeking Nominations

The John Marshall Award was established by the ABA Justice Center to recognize those dedicated to the improvement of the administration of justice. Past winners include Gov. Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, Justice Anthony Kennedy and Sen. Howell Heflin.

The fourth annual presentation of the John Marshall Award will take place at the ABA Judicial Division 2004 Annual Dinner in Honor of the Judiciary, Sunday, August 8 at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History in Atlanta, GA. Nomination forms can be downloaded at www.abanet.org/justicecenter/pdf/04marshallawardform.pdf. Nomination forms and supporting documentation should be sent to:

ABA Justice Center
John Marshall Award
541 N. Fairbanks Court, 13th Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

Fax: 312/988-5709

The deadline for nominations is March 12, 2004.

For more information, please contact Kris Berliant at 312/988-5700 or berliank@staff.abanet.org.

2004 Senior Lawyers Division Pro Bono Award Nominations

The deadline to receive nominations for the 2004 Senior Lawyers Division Pro Bono Award has been extended to March 5, 2004. The award honors individual ABA senior lawyer members, age 55 years of age or older as of July 1, 2004, and who do not obtain their principal income through employment by a legal services organization or by delivering legal services to the poor.

Nominations should include the typed one-page nomination form, a biographical sketch or resume of not more than three pages, not more than three letters of support, and not more than three supporting documents or articles (each not to exceed three pages in length).

The award recipient will be announced by May 2004, and the award, which will be an engraved plaque commemorating the honor, will be presented to the recipient at the Senior Lawyers Division Dinner during the ABA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA in August 2004.

Mail nominations to 2004 SLD Pro Bono Award Nominations, ABA Senior Lawyers Division, 750 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60611 by March 5, 2004. Inquiries may be directed to the Senior Lawyers Division at 312/988-5565. Visit the Senior Lawyers Division Web site to obtain a copy of the guidelines (www.abanet.org/srlawyers/guidelines04.pdf) and nomination form (www.abanet.org/srlawyers/nomination04.pdf).

Environmental Law and Policy Award Nomination Call

The ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law and the ABA Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources are looking for nominations for the 2004 ABA Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy. The award will be given to an organization and an individual. The committee is looking for projects or efforts that promote environmental justice.

For application materials, please visit www.abanet.org/publicserv/environmental.html and click on "Call for Nominations: 2004 Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy." Nominations are due to the ABA by March 31, 2004; early submissions are encouraged.

For more information, please contact Elissa Lichtenstein at 202/662-1695 or elissa@staff.abanet.org.

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Compendium of Professional Responsibility Rules and Standards

The 2004 Edition of the Compendium of Professional Responsibility Rules and Standards is now available for purchase. This book provides over 600 pages of essential legal ethics materials for lawyers and judges in their daily practice, law students in their studies, and legal scholars in their analysis of professional regulation.

In addition to updated versions of ABA Model Rules from prior editions, the 2004 edition includes additions related to client protection rules and the new SEC standards of professional conduct, among other items.

The book may be purchased through the ABA Service Center (PC 5610173) or the ABA Publications Web site, which is located at www.abanet.org/abapubs/home.html.

Law Day Website Offers Help

The ABA's Law Day Web site--www.lawday.org--offers everything bar staff and bar leaders need to produce outstanding Law Day programs. The site, which is updated weekly offers:

- Information about this year's theme (To Win Equality by Law: *Brown v. Board* at 50)
- Lessons for all grade levels on *Brown* and issues of equal protection of the laws
- The complete Dialogue on *Brown v. Board of Education* (8-page teaching/resource guide)
- The entire Law Day planning guide
- Tips on tested programs to use with adults and school children
- Talking points on *Brown v. Board* and related issues
- Camera-ready Law Day art
- Law Day 2004 Sample Proclamation
- Law Day 2004 events submitted by bars, courts and others from around the country
- An updated list of cooperating organizations

The site also gives you the opportunity of adding your name to the Law Day email distribution list, so that you can have regular updates on Law Day activities and resources you can use.

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Free Diversity CLE Now Online

Diversifying the Legal Profession: Strategies from General Counsel, a complimentary online CLE audio program, is now available at www.abanet.org/cle/clenow. This online program is based on presentations at the October 2003 ABA Presidential Conference, "Diversity in the Legal Profession: Opening the Pipeline," spearheaded by the Council on Racial & Ethnic Justice. It was produced by ABA-CLE with support from the Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education. It includes general counsel from Fortune 500 companies who discuss strategies for identifying and overcoming obstacles to diversity in the legal profession. For more information, please contact Holly Hickey at 312/988-6193 or hickeyh@staff.abanet.org

Career Resource Center Holding Series of Teleconferences

The ABA Career Resource Center, in cooperation with the Young Lawyers Division, is offering three career teleconferences in June to help your members, and your bar association can participate as a group. All you'll need is a speakerphone and a conference room. The teleconferences each begin at 1 pm EST on the following days:

- Tuesday, June 15: Mistakes Lawyers Make: Anticipate and avoid classic mistakes by learning from the missteps of lawyers. Hear about the practice traits firms seek in their summer associates and new lawyers, as well as the ethical ramifications of common practice problems.
- Wednesday, June 16: Mastering Time Management: Learn to "work easier" by managing your time more consistently and effectively. Time wasters and efficiency enhancers are addressed, as well as ways to break through the classic procrastination barriers.
- Thursday, June 17: A+ Legal Research: Go beyond the basics covered in law school and in initial training programs by hearing from national experts about ways to make your legal research stand out. Make the grade by applying the program's tips and techniques in your next assignment.

Each session concludes with a live Q&A session. Prominent faculty include: Burt Lipshie, Managing Attorney of Litigation, Stroock, Stroock and Lavan; Margaret Spencer Dixon, Founder, Spencer Consultants; and Judith Gaskell, Librarian, U.S. Supreme Court. For more information about group rates, please contact Jill Eckert McCall at eckertj@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-6215.

ABA Book Publishing Discount Program

Many state and local bars look for innovative and easy ways to generate additional revenue for their organizations. The ABA Book Publishing Discount Program is here to help. By purchasing books at a 40% discount, and re-selling them to your members, you can create a consistent non-dues revenue stream.

The process is fairly straightforward. First you advertise the books in your newsletter, Web site, mailings, or any other member correspondence. Then take

the orders and email or fax them to us. We'll ship the books to you or directly to your customer and invoice your organization at a 40% discount. You then bill your customer and make a profit for your association!

For more information on becoming a distributor, please contact Catherine Kruse at 312/988-6112 or krusec@staff.abanet.org.

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Women Law Leadership Academy Set for April

The ABA Commission on Women in the Profession is hosting the Women in Law Leadership Academy, which will be held April 16-17, 2004 in Chicago.

The academy features two keynote speakers, Christine Lagarde, Chair, Baker & McKenzie and Debora deHoyos, Managing Partner, Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, and a host of other leaders who have made significant strides in the legal profession.

The academy is intended for young women lawyers, associates and new partners, as well as those who have recently entered the corporate world and government.

For more information and to register for the event, please visit www.abanet.org/women/nosearch/leadership_academy.html. Please contact Alissa Brugger at 312/988-5715 or bruggera@staff.abanet.org if you have questions regarding the event.

Equal Justice Conference Offers Discounts to Bar Association Staff and Volunteers

Bar association executive directors and volunteer leaders can now take advantage of a 20% discounted registration fee for the 2004 Equal Justice Conference. The conference will be held on April 15-17, 2004 in Atlanta. Keynote speakers include the former governor of Georgia, Hon. Roy E. Barnes, and Georgia Congressman John Lewis. ABA President Dennis Archer will also be attending the conference. See www.equaljusticeconference.org for more information.

National Conference on Professional Responsibility

The ABA Center for Professional Responsibility is holding the 30th annual National Conference on Professional Responsibility on June 3-5, 2004, in Naples, FL, at the Registry Resort. Attendees have the opportunity to collect information and discuss current issues and problems in the area of professional responsibility with leading experts, scholars and practitioners from across the country. Conference faculty include recognized experts on professional responsibility who provide written materials, present plenary discussions and direct panel workshops

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open to audience participation. The conference programs address recent trends and developments in legal ethics, professional discipline for lawyers, professionalism and practice issues. For more information, including the conference schedule, see the conference Web site at www.abanet.org/cpr/prconf.html or contact the center at ctrprofresp@abanet.org.

In addition, The ABA's Standing Committee on Client Protection's National Forum on Client Protection will take place during the conference. The National Forum on Client Protection is an informational and educational program for professionals working in the area of client protection: including client protection funds, fee arbitration and lawyer-client dispute resolution programs. For more information, please contact John Holtaway at 312/988-5298 or jholtaway@staff.abanet.org. Registration materials are available online at www.abanet.org/cpr/prconf.html.



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