



Miscellaneous Memo

Memo #87

-News You Can Use-
From the ABA Division for Bar Services

6/2/00

Highlights:

Solo and
Small Firm
Day, p. 2

New
Publication on
Return-to-
Work Issues
for People
with
HIV/AIDS,
p. 3

Miscellaneous Memo is published by the ABA Division for Bar Services, 541 N. Fairbanks Court, Chicago, IL 60611, 312/988-5348, e-mail: oreillyj@staff.abanet.org

Joanne M. O'Reilly
Editor



ABA Division for Bar Services

PEOPLE

On the Move...

At the **Massachusetts Bar Association**, **Susan Waters** has resigned as executive director effective June 23; general counsel **Mary Healy** has been named acting executive director. Also at the **Massachusetts Bar Association**, **Kate Guedj** has resigned as director of programs. **Peter M. Green** is the new executive director of the **Bar Association of the District of Columbia**. **Nancy Underwood** has resigned as executive director of the **Indiana State Bar Association**, effective December 1. **Amy Patterson** is the new executive director of the **Westchester County Bar Association (NY)**. Amy was formerly the executive director of the **Virgin Islands Bar Association**. **Carol Seelig** is the new director of the **Small Law Firm Resource Center of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York**. **Patty Blakeman**, formerly the executive director of the **Clark County Bar Association**, is the new director of communications for the **State Bar of Nevada**, replacing **Pami Kowal**. **Dan Kittay**, editor of the *State Bar News* at the **New York State Bar Association**, has resigned to do freelance web design. **Amy Trivison**, formerly media services assistant in the bar's public relations department, replaces Dan. **Ajay K. Vohra** has joined the **New York State Bar Association** as technical support manager. **Kathy Humm** has resigned as executive director of the **York County Bar Association (PA)**. **Jean Bednarski** will be her replacement.

ISSUES

New Multidisciplinary Practice Report Issued

The ABA Commission on Multidisciplinary Practice has posted its new Report and Recommendations to the ABA House of Delegates at www.abanet.org/cpr/multicom/mdpfinalrep2000.html.

The current report differs from last year's proposal in that lawyers would only be permitted to share legal fees and form multidisciplinary partnerships with nonlawyers who are members of disciplines governed by ethical standards, and these shared practices would only be permitted in cases where lawyers have sufficient authority and control to assure lawyer independence. Last year's proposal did not restrict the nonlawyers who would be acceptable in a multidisciplinary practice. It attempted to subject the multidisciplinary firms, rather than just individual lawyers, to regulation by the legal profession as a means of preserving lawyers' independence of judgment.

The new proposal retains from the earlier version support for preserving core values of the legal profession, specifying what it says was implicit in the earlier language in listing competence among those values. Also identified as core values, as they were last year, are independence of professional judgment, protection of confidential client information, loyalty to the client through avoidance of conflicts of interest and pro bono publico obligations.

A special committee of the New York State Bar Association, chaired by former ABA President Robert MacCrate, has drafted a report which would allow lawyers and law firms to provide nonlegal services directly or through affiliates, prohibit nonlawyers or nonlegal entities from owning or controlling the law firm, and permit lawyers and law firms to contract with nonlegal professionals and professional service firms for the purpose of offering legal and other professional services to the public.

The ABA House of Delegates will consider both reports at the upcoming ABA Annual Meeting in New York on July 10-11. For further information, contact Art Garwin at 312/988-5294, e-mail: agarwin@staff.abanet.org.

Ethics 2000 Update

The Ethics 2000 Commission has released drafts of all the

Model Rules of Professional Conduct for public comment. New drafts released include: the Preamble and Scope sections and Rules 1.0, 1.2, 1.4, 1.11, 1.12, 2.3, 2.x, 3.1, 3.3 - 3.5, 3.7 - 3.9, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 6.1, 6.3, 6.5 and 8.5. Drafts can be obtained from the Commission's web site at www.abanet.org/cpr/ethics2k.html or from Sue Campbell 312/988-5328, e-mail: suecampbell@staff.abanet.org.

The Commission will release a report detailing its recommendations in October. Any comments to be considered by the Commission before the report is released must be received by September 1.

The Commission is holding a public hearing in conjunction with the ABA Annual Meeting in New York on July 6 at 1:30pm in the Sheraton. Contact Sue Campbell to register.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

Solo & Small Firm Day 2000

The ABA General Practice Solo and Small Firm Section will sponsor the Solo & Small Firm Day 2000: "Tips on How to Get Paid for the Work You Do" on July 6 at the offices of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York during the ABA Annual Meeting. Topics addressed will include

establishing effective and simple systems for getting paid for services provided and maintaining good client relations while avoiding collection problems. The sessions are free to Annual Meeting registrants. For more information, contact Kate Marvich at 312/988-5640, e-mail: marvichk@staff.abanet.org.

PROJECTS/ENTITIES

Business-Related Pro Bono Services

The ABA Section of Business Law's Committee on Pro Bono, in partnership with the National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA), sponsors a major field service program entitled "A Business Commitment" (ABC). ABC facilitates the provision of business-related pro bono services to legal services programs and community organizations and assists with general corporate matters, partnership law, real estate transactions, taxation, employment practices, private and government contracts, and finances. Based upon the lessons learned from these programs, ABC recently developed and released the comprehensive "how to" manual, *Starting and Operating a Business Law Pro Bono Project*, to help other communities develop their own successful business law pro bono programs. The ABC's of starting and operating a new business law pro bono project are set out in sections on "Getting Started," "Providing Services" and "Expanding Community Involvement." In addition to the nuts and bolts of starting a new project, the manual high-

lights success stories from various projects that have worked. The ABC manual is designed to allow other communities to develop their own projects tailored to local needs and the resources available to develop a staffed program. It also features a directory of resources and technical assistance providers. This manual is a practical, must-have tool for those interested in creating a pro bono business law entity and in making a difference in their community. To view a copy of the manual visit www.abanet.org/buslaw/probono/ABC.pdf. For more information on the ABC Project, contact Guy Lescault (NLADA) at 202/452-0620, ext. 220, e-mail: glescault@nlada.org.

Also sponsored by the Business Law Pro Bono Committee is the National Public Service Award, which is presented annually to individuals, firms, or corporate legal departments that have demonstrated a commitment to providing free legal services to the poor in a business context. The 2000

National Public Service Award winners are General Electric Corporate Legal Organization, Fairfield, CT, and William C. Kelly, Jr., Washington, DC. For additional information on

the Pro Bono Committee, National Public Service Award, or Section of Business Law, contact Joanne Travis at 312/988-5680 e-mail: travisj@staff.abanet.org.

PUBLICATIONS/VIDEOS/RESOURCES

(Unless otherwise noted, all resources listed below can be obtained by contacting the ABA Service Center at 800/285-2221. Please refer to product code noted for each resource when ordering.)

New Publication Addresses Return-to-Work Issues for People with HIV/AIDS

A new ABA publication provides a roadmap through the ambiguities and contradictions associated with return-to-work issues for the increasing numbers of individuals with HIV/AIDS returning to the workforce. *Perspectives on Returning to Work: Changing Legal Issues and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic* is a guide written for both legal and lay professionals.

The booklet presents the legal issues from three diverse perspectives - the person with HIV/AIDS, the employer, and the insurer. Experts from each perspective wrote and edited the entire publication, along with members of the ABA's AIDS Coordinating Committee. The end result is a comprehensive guide to help people with HIV/AIDS, their employers and insurers make informed decisions regarding a return to the workforce. It is available at no cost by contacting Steven Powell at 202/662-1025.

AWARDS

Earn Recognition for Your Law Day Programs

Here's a great way to be recognized for your outstanding Law Day efforts. The ABA has two Law Day contests, but the deadline is just a few days away--June 10. Entry forms are in the Law Day planning guide (pages 46-49) and on-line at www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/00/awards.html.

The Finch Speech Award Contest recognizes outstanding Law Day speeches--with a \$1,000 check to the winner, and recognition for the organizations hosting the event at which the speech was given. Make sure to get a copy of the speech to submit--and remember that a tape will do in lieu of the written speech.

The Law Day Activity Award Competition recognizes outstanding Law Day programs--usually 6-8 per year--and carries with it a plaque and a \$100 credit toward the purchase of Law Day items.

Information about entering both contests, and last year's award-winning speeches can be found at www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/00/awards.html.

Thurgood Marshall Award Winner Announced

Retired Justice Revius Ortique, Jr., the first African American elected to the Louisiana Supreme Court, has been selected to

receive the 2000 Thurgood Marshall Award in recognition of his long-term contributions to the advancement of civil rights. Ortique will receive the award during the ABA Annual Meeting on July 8 in New York.

Established in 1992, the Thurgood Marshall Award recognizes an individual's long-term contributions to the advancement of civil rights, civil liberties, and human rights in the U.S. For more information on the award, visit www.abanet.org/irr.

Gambrell Professionalism Award Winners Announced

The ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism is pleased to announce the winners of the 2000 E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards. The awards will be presented at the upcoming ABA Annual Meeting in New York. This year's awards, in the amount of \$3,500 each, will be presented to The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division for its Practicing with Professionalism program and the Genesee County Bar Association for its Attorney Ethics and Professionalism program. 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 ultimate objective of the awards is to encourage groups to establish or replicate effective programs to heighten the awareness of lawyers and law students to the importance of professional responsibility and to ensure maintenance of the highest

principles of integrity and dedication to the legal profession and to the public.

The annual E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Awards recognize projects that enhance professionalism among lawyers. Law schools, bar associations, law firms and not-for-profit law-related organizations are eligible for the awards. The award is named for E. Smythe Gambrell, who served simultaneously as president of the ABA and the American Bar Foundation in 1955-56.

For more information about the awards visit www.abanet.org/cpr/gambrell.html, or contact Carole Mostow at 312/988-5307, e-mail: cmostow@staff.abanet.org.

Law School to Receive ABA Pro Bono Publico Award

The University of Pennsylvania Law School is the first law school to receive an ABA Pro Bono Publico Award. The law school will be recognized for its Public Service Program during a luncheon on Monday, July 10, at the Sheraton New York during the ABA Annual Meeting. Also receiving awards will be two individual lawyers, a law firm, and a corporate legal department.

The University of Pennsylvania Law School became the first law school to establish a mandatory public service requirement. Under its Public Service Program, students must provide 70 hours of public service law-related work as a condition of graduation. Since the program's inception in 1989, more than 2,400 second- and third-year law students have performed more than 200,000 hours of pro bono service for low-income clients, who otherwise might not have had access to legal representation. More than 80 percent of the program's graduates continue to actively participate in pro bono work after graduation.

The Pro Bono Publico Awards were established by the ABA in 1984 and are presented annually by the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service (www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono.html) to recognize lawyers, law firms, and corporate law departments for extraordinarily noteworthy contributions in extending legal services to the poor and disadvantaged.

Immigration Project Mini-Grants Awarded

The ABA Immigration Pro Bono Development and Bar Activation Project has awarded 18 grants to bar associations across the country to provide legal services to immigrants. The grants are part of a nationwide effort funded through the ABA by the Ford Foundation and the Open Society Institute to increase pro bono services to immigrants, refugees, and newcomers.

The majority of grants will be used to fund projects to recruit and train volunteer lawyers to represent immigrants in various legal matters. Receiving mini-grants are: State Bar of Arizona; Taiwanese American Lawyer's Association in Arcadia, California; Asian Bar Association of Sacramento; Orange County (CA) Asian American Bar Association; Denver Bar Association; Broward County Bar Association; Cuban American Bar Association/Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center; Volunteer Lawyers Network/Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota; Springfield (Missouri) Metropolitan Bar Association; Camden County Bar Association in Atlantic City, New Jersey; Association of the Bar of the City of New York; Volunteer Lawyers for the Poor Foundation in Cincinnati, Ohio; Travis County Bar Association in Austin, Texas; Bexar County Women's Bar Association in San Antonio, Texas; State Bar of Texas Committee on Laws Relating to Immigration & Nationality; Utah State Bar; Asian American Bar Association in Seattle, Washington; and Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center in Washington, D.C.

These grants are the latest in a series of awards the ABA has made to bar-sponsored immigration pro bono programs. Since 1993, the ABA has awarded \$788,000 to volunteer lawyer programs for the purpose of assisting immigrants. In 1998 alone, the ABA awarded \$550,000 in grants for this purpose.

For more information on the projects and the grant program, please contact Christina DeConcini at 202/662-1008, e-mail: deconcic@staff.abanet.org.

Share the Wealth



All too often, bar associations initiate a program only to find out too late that a similar program already has been implemented by another bar. To help solve this problem, the NABE Chief Staff Executive Committee conceived this unique information program to “share the wealth.” This is the twenty-second publication in the series. Below are 23 project descriptions from 9 state bars and 8 local bars. A contact person is listed at the end of each description.

ALABAMA STATE BAR

Top Twenty Membership Benefits Brochure

Developed to highlight the benefits of membership, the colorful brochure provides brief descriptions of twenty membership services offered by the state bar. The twelve-page brochure will be shrink wrapped on top of the annual bar directory sent to all members in June. It is color-coordinated with the bar directory for visual impact. The publication will also be posted on the bar’s web site at www.alabar.org. Contact: Susan Andres, 334/269-1515, e-mail: sandres@alabar.org.

COLORADO BAR ASSOCIATION

Multidisciplinary Practice

The Colorado Bar Association recently recommended that the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct and other Colorado rules be amended to accommodate multidisciplinary practices, so long as certain core values of the profession could be preserved. Multidisciplinary practice (MDP) is a kind of “one-stop-shopping” where clients would receive attorney services, financial planning and accounting in the same facility from one firm. The Colorado Bar Association is one of a handful of bar associations to have gone on the record to recommend accommodating some form of MDP. To view the MDP report, go to the bar’s web site at www.cobar.org. Contact: Dale Harris, 303/892-7330, e-mail: dale.harris@dgsllaw.com.

Judicial Listserv

In efforts to make applying for a judicial vacancy easier, the Colorado Bar Association has established a free judicial vacancy listserv. By subscribing to the new listserv, members are automatically notified by e-mail when a judicial opening occurs. After notification, people can log-on to the bar’s web site to download forms. Visit the listserv location at www.cobar.org/listservs.htm. Contact: Mel Reveles, 303/824-5349, e-mail: mreveles@cobar.org.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAR

Youth Law Fair

A Youth Law Fair was held at the District of Columbia Courthouse on April 29. This event was sponsored by seven sections of the District of Columbia Bar and three local bar associations with the cooperation of the local courts, the public schools, three District government offices and a law school program for teenagers. The fair attracted more than 200 District of Columbia teenagers, parents, guardians, and lawyers who took part in a full day of activities, which included seminars, exhibits, a mock trial and tours of a courtroom, judge’s chambers and a cell block. The opening session was a Youth Speak Out session on the causes of teen violence. Teens debated whether violence was the result of a variety of factors including music lyrics, home training, poor schools, media influence, troubled homes, self-esteem or personal values.

Teenagers and parents didn't just speak out about what causes teens to resort to violence, they gave suggestions to combat the problem of teen violence at the fair's closing session. Ideas included adding more after-school programs, organizing teen support groups, adding more police on the beat in the community, supporting programs by the District's youth mayor, and getting professionals out of their offices and into the community where teenagers can see and talk to role models one-on-one. Based on the positive feedback of participants, the sponsoring bar groups are now discussing plans to follow up on these suggestions and to conduct more events like the fair. Contact: Carol Ann Cunningham, 202/626-3463, e-mail: cacunningham@dcbar.org.

INDIANA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Domestic Violence Assistance

The Indiana State Bar Association has designated the year 2000 to helping families dealing with domestic violence issues. The first project for this initiative was a silent auction to benefit domestic violence shelters in Indiana. The event, held during the spring meeting, was deemed a success with more than \$15,000 raised for the shelters.

A second fundraiser will be held this fall. "First 100 Women Dinner" will honor the first 100 women admitted to practice law in the State of Indiana. All proceeds of the event will be distributed to domestic violence shelters throughout the state.

The Young Lawyers Section of the Bar is currently collecting used cell phones for "Project 911". Phones collected will be specially programmed to automatically dial 911 when any button is pushed. The phones are distributed to victims of domestic violence to use in emergencies.

The Young Lawyers Section is also sponsoring the "Pro Se Protective Order Project." This program provides every county clerk's office in the state with easy to read and complete forms for abuse victims to use when obtaining a protective order. This program will be done in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Section's "Safety Plan Project." Through this program, pamphlets will be distributed to educate people about Indiana's domestic violence laws. Contact Paje Felts, 317/639-5465, e-mail: feltsp@inbar.org.

MAINE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Old Mainers Program

The Elder Law Section of the Maine State Bar Association presents the free Older Mainers program every spring. This year's seminar, "Giving Away My Assets: Should I Do It?," addressed the difficult financial decisions many seniors face. The Elder Law Section develops an outline of a subject matter to be covered and volunteer attorneys speak at a local senior center. This year's program was held in three locations throughout the state. Over 175 people attended these programs which were publicized through senior groups and local media outlets. Contact: Jennifer Lechner, 207/622-7523, e-mail: jlechner@mainebar.org.

THE MISSISSIPPI BAR

"Consequences of Misconduct in School" Brochure

The Young Lawyers Division of The Mississippi Bar believes that the key to addressing the problem of school violence is early intervention through education. What is misconduct while a student is on school property? What happens when a student fails to attend school, or carries a weapon to school, or possesses tobacco on school property? The recently published brochure "Consequences of Misconduct in School" addresses these questions. The brochure addresses nine areas including: weapons on school property, disorderly conduct, disturbance of the peace, battery, failure to attend school, alcohol, tobacco, vandalism, and

youth court procedure. The information was formatted into an easy-to-read brochure and the program was endorsed by the Mississippi Department of Education's Office of Safe and Orderly Schools.

Over 200,000 brochures were printed. During Law Week 2000 the brochures were distributed to every 5th-8th grade student in the Mississippi Public School System reaching 620 schools and 159,000 students statewide. The program will be expanded in the 2000-2001 school year to include Mississippi Public High School students in addition to all private school students in the 5th-12th grades. Contact: Melanie Henry, 601/948-4471, e-mail: mhenry@msbar.org.

Client Relations Forms, Letters and Useful Information

Client Relations Forms, Letters and Useful Information is a new publication provided at no charge to all active members of The Mississippi Bar. The information and forms contained in the book are designed to assist attorneys in making their law practice more profitable while keeping the attorney out of trouble, either by way of bar complaints or malpractice lawsuits. The publication contains forms and information designed to assist the attorney in everyday practice including intake forms, sample contracts, file retention and closing, office procedures, calendar control, a statute of limitations index, and software directory. A free computer disk is included with the book to provide the attorney with instant computer access to the forms printed in the text. Contact: Larry Houchins, 601/948-4471, e-mail: msbar@msbar.org.

NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Legal Assistance Partnership Conference

The Conference, to be held June 12-14, 2000, in Albany, brings together attorneys in the public and private sectors involved in providing legal service to those in need. The New York State Bar Association Committee on Legal Aid and the Department of Pro Bono Affairs present the Conference. Designed to foster strong partnerships among the state's legal services community in delivering high quality, comprehensive service, the program features more than 50 workshops on substantive law, procedures, advocacy skills, project development, and technology. A Computer Lab will provide hands-on opportunities to examine the Internet and other resources. Meetings of the Welfare and Family Law Task Forces, Diversity Coalition, New York Pro Bono Coordinators Network, Statewide Project Directors and Disability Law Project will also be part of the program. Contact: Anthony Perez Cassino, 518/487-5640, e-mail: acassino@nysba.org.

Simplified Case Resolution

Legislation has been introduced in the New York State Legislature at the request of the New York State Bar Association to provide parties with the option of a simplified case resolution method for civil cases involving claims of money not exceeding \$75,000. The proposal was previously approved by the NYSBA House of Delegates. The measure, with streamlined procedures, is part of the initiatives proposed by the NYSBA Commission on Providing Access to Legal Services for Middle Income Consumers. The legislation, which would amend the state's Civil Practice Law and Rules, is intended to keep dispute resolution in the court system and bring together consumers, whose legal problems might otherwise go unresolved because of the economics of bringing the matter to court, and attorneys able to provide counsel under a simplified structure. Contact: Bradley G. Carr, 518/487-5530, e-mail: bcarr@nysba.org.

Voir Dire Survey, Report, and Recommendations

The New York State Bar Association Ad Hoc Committee on the Jury System surveyed practitioners regarding their experience with time allotments and related procedures in civil and criminal voir dire. Based on the findings, the Committee developed recommendations, endorsed by the House of Delegates, to address the need for adequate time for attorney questions in jury selection and flexibility to accommodate the nature and dynamics of the case and promote judge-attorney discussion of the cases. The survey was undertaken to gain information beyond the anecdotal. The survey was co-sponsored by the bar's Criminal Justice Section, Committee on Tort Reparations, and the Trial Lawyers Section. Contact: L. Beth Krueger, 518/487-5560, e-mail: bkrueger@nysba.org.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BAR

North Carolina Lawyer's Handbook CD-ROM

The Lawyer's Handbook is published annually and contains the rules and regulations of the State Bar, Revised Rules of Professional Conduct, all final ethics opinions, trust account guidelines, and directory of legal specialists. *The Lawyer's Handbook* has traditionally been published in hard copy and is still available in this format for those not comfortable with the electronic version.

Each quarter new rules, ethics opinions, specialists, etc. are added to the Handbook, increasing printing and mailing costs each year. In addition, researching the Handbook in hard copy was cumbersome and if members needed to get the text into a document-brief, e-mail, etc.-their only option was to retype the copy. Furthermore, after a single quarter the Handbook was outdated.

The bar decided to produce the Handbook in a CD-ROM format. The Handbook, which is loaded onto the hard drive, is searchable, downloadable, and printable. Because the CD is capable of holding a vast amount of data, the bar was able to include material never before available in the Handbook, such as the membership directory and state bar forms.

Another benefit of using the CD-ROM format is the ability to update the Handbook. Every quarter, as new ethics opinions are approved, rules are amended, and other minor changes take place, members can access the bar's web site (www.ncbar.com) to download and run a setup file that will update the Handbook. Now the Handbook is essentially never outdated. Contact: Jennifer Chapman, 910/509-2876, e-mail: jrchapma@bellsouth.net

RHODE ISLAND BAR ASSOCIATION

Ask-A-Lawyer

The Rhode Island Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service and the ABC Television Affiliate co-sponsored a public service project to provide the viewing public with an opportunity to receive legal advice during Law Week. The LRS provided volunteer attorneys to answer incoming calls to the TV station. The TV station promoted this event prior to and during Law Week. Calls were answered each evening from 6:00-9:00pm. As part of the bar's public service commitment, no referral fees were collected. Over 1,500 callers participated and received legal advice or referral to appropriate agencies. Contact: Lynne Dawson, 401/421-5740, e-mail: ldawson@ribar.com.

VIRGINIA STATE BAR

Law Day 2000 Education Initiative

The ABA declared Law Day 2000 as a time to urge all Americans to become more aware of how legal professionals protect the rights of individuals in a diverse society. In keeping with the ABA theme of "Democracy and Diversity," on April 27, 2000, the Virginia State Bar began a two-week public education campaign across Virginia. It featured examples of how Virginia attorneys protect individual rights, using newspaper and radio advertisements and poster distribution.

The Virginia State Bar Committee for Publications and Public Information developed five public education advertisements on how lawyers protect the rights of individuals. It also produced radio spots using the ad copy. Beginning just before Law Day 2000, the bar placed quarter-page newspaper ads in major metropolitan newspapers (including minority newspapers), with a total circulation of over one-half million readers; radio spots began on the 48 stations of the Virginia Radio Network, with an audience of nearly one million.

It accomplished additional outreach by having members of the Young Lawyers Conference and the Conference of Local Bars begin distribution of 1,000 posters to community recreation centers, libraries, and shopping malls. Contact: Rodney A. Coggin, 804/775-0585, e-mail: coggin@vsb.org.

BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO

College Recruitment Program

The new program of the Bar Association of San Francisco helps students at one of San Francisco's most disadvantaged schools get into college. 30 juniors are selected to participate, based primarily on an essay competition. The bar subsidizes a SAT preparation course; trains and supervises volunteer college mentors for each student; and uses lawyer-donated frequent flyer miles to send the students on trips to visit colleges. Contact: Dru Ramey, 415/477-2388, e-mail: dramey@sfbar.org.

DENVER BAR ASSOCIATION

Celebration of Excellence

On June 5, the Denver Bar Association Young Lawyers Division hosted the second annual "Celebration of Educational Excellence" with the State of Colorado Department of Human Services and Arapahoe County Bar Association to honor Colorado foster children who have overcome tremendous odds to graduate from high school or obtain a GED. Many of these children have been bounced from placement to placement, often having to change schools and miss the opportunity of a typical high school experience. The celebration was an opportunity to recognize the youth who have attained the milestone of graduation. Graduates received a diploma signed by the governor, three free credit hours to statewide community colleges, a \$50 gift certificate to Wal-Mart and various college paraphernalia. Contact: Laura Embleton, 303/824-5369, e-mail: lemberton@coabar.org.

Roll Out the Barrels

In another community effort, the Denver Bar Association organized its first annual "Roll Out the Barrels" food drive on February 14-18. Over 70 law firms and friends of the legal community participated in this highly successful event. The efforts of everyone involved raised 4,249 pounds of food, enough food for 6,148 meals for the homeless. Contact: Karen Bries, 303/824-5303, email: kbries@coabar.org.

PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION (FL)

The Michelle Project

The Michelle Project was created by the Department of Children and Families in Palm Beach County to provide new computers to foster homes. The YLS organizes and facilitates contributions from the legal community in Palm Beach County to the project. Computers in the foster homes allow the children to stay competitive and encourages them to use their minds and improve their academic performance. This project was recently named "Best Single Project" by The Florida Bar's Young Lawyer's Division and given a \$1,500 award. Contact: Bryan Poulton, 561/355-7120.

INDIANAPOLIS BAR ASSOCIATION

Ask-A-Lawyer

The Ask-A-Lawyer project is a pro bono endeavor. On Saturday, June 3, 2000, nearly 300 IBA lawyer volunteers will be stationed at 14 community centers across Indianapolis, each working three-hour shifts, to meet one-on-one with individuals in the community. The goal of the project is to provide those citizens

who might otherwise not be able to afford legal advice with the legal help they need. The Ask-A-Lawyer project is being funded by the Indianapolis Bar Foundation, the charitable and educational arm of the IBA. Contact: Julie Armstrong, 317/269-2000, e-mail: jarmstrong@indybar.org.

BAR ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS

Youth Empowerment Summit

More than 150 students from 30 local schools participated in the "Conference on Strategies for a Successful Future," co-sponsored by the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis' Young Lawyers Division. The Summit, held at Washington University, brought together kids to talk about issues going on in their schools, such as diversity, violence diffusion, and wellness. Contact: Jennifer Schwen-DaMann, 314/340-6865.

SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN BAR ASSOCIATION (MO)

Boy Scout Troop for At-Risk Juveniles

The Springfield Metropolitan Bar Association sponsors a boy scout troop in conjunction with the Juvenile Court of Greene County. This troop was formed as a juvenile diversion program within the Juvenile Court. Boys on probation are recommended for the troop by juvenile officers and assigned to the troop as a condition of probation. Also included in the troop are boys from the Challenge Treatment Center, a "halfway house" for juveniles.

The troop is designed to meet the needs of at-risk boys in the community. The program focuses on life skills development. Its goal is to offer at-risk boys an alternative life style, one that holds the promise of achievement and success.

The program has been running for several years and has been successful in introducing the boys to scouting concepts and providing them with leadership skills and opportunities for activities that many have not had up to this point in the lives. The program also seeks to involve parents to provide support and participate in troop activities. The cost to the bar is minimal and most troop committee members are lawyers interested in scouting. Contact: Lois Zerrer, 417/831-2783, e-mail: smba@pcis.net.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Contract Attorney Placement Service

ACBA Services, Inc., the for-profit entity affiliated with the Allegheny County Bar Association, has partnered with Legal Network, LTD as the recommended contract attorney placement service for bar members. Legal Network is the area's first and only attorney-owned and operated full service, temporary and permanent legal placement agency. ACBA Services, Inc. began searching for a contract attorney service to endorse over a year ago because of the immense growth in the industry and the demand for contract attorneys in the marketplace. Contact: Daniel Casciato, 412/402-6620, e-mail: dcasciat@acba.org.

PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION

New Bar Association Web Site

The Philadelphia Bar Association has launched its completely redesigned web site at www.philadelphiabar.org. The site, featuring "quick-view" departments and new user-friendly elements, includes changing full color views of the Philadelphia skyline and a special page designed to attract the nation's top law-

school graduates to Philadelphia law firms. Other new elements include a career planning and placement center and a newsroom. Contact: Mark Tarasiewicz, 215/238-6346, e-mail: mtarasiewicz@philabar.org.

MDP Study and Report

The Philadelphia Bar Association capped more than a year of study and debate on multidisciplinary practice when its Board of Governors voted to approve an MDP Task Force report making it the first bar association in the nation to approve MDPs “provided that they remain lawyer-controlled.” The Association’s approval of the MDP concept won national media attention and Chancellor Doreen S. Davis has suggested that the “lawyer controlled” stipulation could become a model for further action by other associations. Contact: Daniel Cirucci, 215/238-6340, e-mail: dcirucci@philabar.org.

HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

Lawyers Against Waste Clean-Up Project

The Houston Bar Association held its second “Lawyers Against Waste (L.A.W.) Clean-Up Project” on April 29, commemorating both Law Day and Earth Day. Over 220 bar members, their families and support staff volunteered for the project. They cleaned up 72 city blocks and picked up 36,400 pounds of litter in an area just outside downtown. Houston Mayor Lee Brown proclaimed April 29th “Lawyers Against Waste Day” in Houston. The bar sponsored the project in conjunction with Keep Houston Beautiful and the City of Houston. The project is an annual event. Contact: Jo D. Miller, 713/759-1133, e-mail: hba-office@hba.org.