

# Miscellaneous *Memo*

## *Issues*

### **New Survey Shows Increased Faith in Justice System, Concern about Lawyers**

Public confidence in the justice system has increased in the months since the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, according to a survey sponsored by the ABA Section of Litigation. However, the survey showed that the public believed that lawyers aren't doing a good job communicating with clients, especially in regard to fees. Also, respondents in the survey said they couldn't distinguish between "good" and "bad" lawyers, making them less likely to hire one. In addition, the survey indicates lawyers need to communicate better about their public service and pro bono activities.

"What we learned from the survey is both troubling and reassuring," said Robert A. Clifford, Chicago, chair of the section. "To address these issues, lawyers must start by being better communicators. Lawyers must be taught the importance of lawyer-client relationships in law school, and they have an obligation to talk and to work with the public to enhance understanding of our justice system."

To view the whole report, please visit <http://www.abanet.org/litigation/lawyers/publicperceptions.pdf>. Questions about the report can be answered by the Section of Litigation, which can be reached at 312/988-5662 or [okeefeem@staff.abanet.org](mailto:okeefeem@staff.abanet.org).

### **Death Penalty Moratorium Reaches Out to Local Bar Associations**

The ABA is stepping up its efforts to implement a nationwide halt in executions with a new steering committee within the Death Penalty Moratorium Implementation Project, which the ABA established to implement a nationwide halt in executions until the death penalty process is reformed.

In this new phase of the moratorium effort, a steering committee and dedicated staff will encourage other bar associations to press for moratoriums in their own jurisdictions and encourage state government leaders to adopt moratoriums while they undertake detailed examinations of their own capital punishment laws and procedures. The ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities <http://www.abanet.org/irr/home.html>, which

houses the project, published protocols last June to assist states undertaking these detailed reviews.

Although the ABA has no position on the death penalty itself, it called for a halt in executions nationwide in 1997 until capital jurisdictions can ensure that death penalty cases are administered fairly, in accordance with due process and with minimum risk that innocent people may be executed.

## **ABA to Promote Value of Lawyers and “Rule of Law” in the United States**

The ABA is gearing up a campaign to help the public understand the role of the rule of law and the value lawyers bring to a free society.

The association plans a number of informational programs targeted to key groups in the country’s largest markets. “We have wonderful stories to tell about the meaning of the rule of law and the contribution the lawyers of America are making each day to make it possible for people in this country to exercise their freedoms,” said ABA President Robert Hirshon. “That is a luxury few other nations in the world know, and one our nation does not take for granted.”

The ABA Board of Governors authorized an expenditure of \$200,000 from its current budget for the current fiscal year, and up to \$2 million for the project in fiscal year 2002-03

## **Don’t Miss out on LRIS’s Celebrity PSAs!**

The ABA’s Standing Committee on Lawyer Referral and Information Services (LRIS) is wrapping up production on new public service announcements featuring celebrity talent.

The public service announcements feature Camryn Manheim of TV’s *The Practice*, Fred Graham of Court TV, and author Scott Turow. They will be available on CD or cassette and each CD or cassette ordered will contain three announcements -- one announcement by each celebrity. In addition, you will have the opportunity to order customized versions of the announcements featuring the name and number of your Lawyer Referral Service, as well as additional copies of the announcements for wider distribution.

If you have not already received an information packet and order form in the mail, or if you have questions concerning the cost of ordering the announcements, please call Glenn Fischer 312/988-5755 or send an email to [fischerg@staff.abanet.org](mailto:fischerg@staff.abanet.org). Orders for customized announcements must be received by May 24, 2002.

## Input on Lawyer Advertising Wanted

The ABA Commission on Responsibility in Client Development is seeking comments on its draft Guidelines for Lawyer Advertising. The guidelines are designed as an update to the ABA Aspirational Goals for Lawyer Advertising, which were adopted by the House of Delegates in 1988. The guidelines can be found at [www.abanet.org/journal/ereport/a19adguide.html](http://www.abanet.org/journal/ereport/a19adguide.html). Please contact Will Hornsby at 312/988-5761 or [whornsby@staff.abanet.org](mailto:whornsby@staff.abanet.org) if you have any questions.

## Happy Birthday to the American Bar Endowment

The American Bar Endowment, which runs six different insurance programs developed by lawyers for fellow lawyers, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. The endowment is unique because voluntary contributions of insurance dividends on the group plans fund several million dollars in ABE grants to advance legal education, research and public service. Over 90% of ABE's members donate their insurance dividends to charity.

The endowment will formally celebrate its anniversary during the ABA's 125th Annual Meeting, to be held August 8-13 in Washington, D.C.

For more information about the American Bar Endowment, the insurance plans available and the ABE Charitable Gift Fund, contact Kelly Abeles at 312/988-6407 or by email, [kabeles@abendowment.org](mailto:kabeles@abendowment.org).

## *Awards*

### Law Day Contests Now Open

The ABA Public Education Division is now accepting applications for two Law Day awards.. Postmark deadline is June 11 for both contests.

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. Speeches can be sent either in writing or on an audio or video recording. You can read last year's award-winning speeches and find out how to enter this year's contest, at [www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/finch/home.html](http://www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/finch/home.html)

The **Law Day Activity Award Competition** recognizes outstanding Law Day programs--usually 6-8 per year--and carries with it plaque and a \$100 credit toward the purchase of Law Day items You can find out about last year's activity award and entry information at [www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/oa/home.html](http://www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/oa/home.html)

Also, this year's Images of Freedom photo winners can be viewed at [www.abanet.org/publiced/imagescontest/win02.html](http://www.abanet.org/publiced/imagescontest/win02.html)

## **LAMP Honors Sept. 11 Pro Bono Services**

The ABA Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel presented the 2001 LAMP Distinguished Service Awards to the September 11th Pro Bono Legal Relief Project and the Joint Services Pentagon Family Assistance Center Legal Team on April 29 in Washington, D.C.

The September 11th Pro Bono Legal Relief Project is a civilian effort mobilizing the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland legal communities to provide pro bono legal services to the victims and family survivors of the September 11 attack on the Pentagon. Those eligible include military and civilian Department of Defense employees, civilian contractors, passengers and crew of American Airlines Flight #77, and relief and rescue workers. The project supplements, as needed, the legal services already being provided by military legal assistance officers. To date more than 30 law firms have been recruited to work on more than 90 matters, including wills, trusts and estates; guardianship and child custody; insurance coverage; and tax help.

The Joint Services Pentagon Family Assistance Center Legal Team is a military organization that was assembled after the September 11 terrorist attacks to provide legal assistance to the surviving family members of the attack victims. Following the attacks, participating legal assistance lawyers and enlisted legal technicians and support staff operated the Family Assistance Center legal assistance office seven days a week, 16 hours a day. Participants worked to assist 236 individuals and families and support the 68 military Casualty Assistance Officers assigned to help families during this critical time by providing a full range of services.

For more information about LAMP and the awards, please visit [www.abanet.org/legalservices/lamp/home.html](http://www.abanet.org/legalservices/lamp/home.html)

## **Women Legal Pioneers Honored**

The ABA Commission on Women will be honoring 5 women who became legal giants and influential jurists with the Margaret Brent Award. The Award Luncheon will be held on August 11, 2002. The 2002 Honorees are:

### **Annie Brown Kennedy**

Ms. Kennedy served as a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1982 - 1994. She was the first African-American woman elected to North Carolina's general assembly. Ms. Kennedy is currently a partner at her law firm in Winston-Salem, North Carolina where she practices with her husband and their twin sons.

### **Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton**

Ms. Norton has served as a congresswoman for Washington D.C. since 1991. Throughout her career Ms. Norton has been an advocate for woman's rights and has worked to promote equal opportunity. Before her election to the United States Congress, Ms.

Norton served as the chair of the New York City Human Rights Commission as well as chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under President Jimmy Carter.

**Myrna Sharon Raeder**

Ms. Raeder is a Professor of Law at Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles, California. From 1994 to 1996 Ms. Raeder served as the president of the National Association of Women Lawyers and helped to promote and revitalize the organization with her energy and organizational skills. In 1998, Ms. Raeder became the first female president of the ABA's Criminal Justice Section.

**Judith P. Vladeck**

Ms. Vladeck has been practicing labor and employment law since 1950. Among the many high profile and landmark cases that Ms. Vladeck has been involved in, perhaps the most notable is the 1981 case *Kyriazi v Western Electric* in which Ms. Vladeck represented 2,000 women employees of Western Electric alleging denied opportunities for women and sexual harassment by male co-workers. She won \$7 million for her clients, the largest award in a privately funded discrimination case.

**Hon. Rya W. Zobel**

Judge Zobel immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1947 and although she knew little English, Rya excelled academically and graduated from Harvard Law school only nine years later. President Carter appointed Judge Zobel in 1979 as a U.S. District Judge for the state of Massachusetts. In 1995 The Hon. William Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, appointed Rya as the first women director of the Federal Judicial Center.

For more information about the luncheon and to purchase a reserved table call Jennifer Walter at 312/988-5668. For more information about the awards, please be sure to visit [www.abanet.org/women/honorees01.html](http://www.abanet.org/women/honorees01.html).

**Former Congressman named as Thurgood Marshall Award Winner**

Former Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.) will receive the 2002 American Bar Association Thurgood Marshall Award, recognizing nearly four decades of U. S. House of Representatives leadership protecting civil rights and civil liberties.

“In all respects, Don Edwards exemplifies the strength of character that defined Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, making him an especially fitting, and indeed inspiring, choice for this prestigious award. He has shown unswerving devotion to the Constitution and its values throughout his career,” said Zona F. Hostetler, chair of the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, which administers the award.

The award will be presented at the 2002 Thurgood Marshall Award Dinner, August 10, during the ABA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. For more information about the award or the dinner, call the section office at 202/662-1030 or visit the IRR section Web site at [www.abanet.org/irr](http://www.abanet.org/irr).

# Resources

## **ABA Book Publishing Discount Program**

Your bar association can save 40% on select ABA publications by participating in the ABA Book Publishing 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.

**Attorney and Law Firm Guide to The Business of Law**, Second Edition, by Edward Poll.

Focusing on the three elements of a successful practice – getting clients, doing quality work, and getting paid for your effort – this guide demonstrates how to create a comprehensive yet practical business plan and, most importantly, how your members can put the plan into action. The plan focuses on three key components: determining your goals, understanding how to market your practice, and understanding the basics of finance so you can control your bottom line.

For a complete listing of titles available through this program, go to [www.ababooks.org](http://www.ababooks.org). For detailed information on the program please visit [www.abanet.org/abapubs/discountprogram.html](http://www.abanet.org/abapubs/discountprogram.html) or, to place an order, contact Catherine Flanagan at 312/988-6112, e-mail: [flanagac@staff.abanet.org](mailto:flanagac@staff.abanet.org).

Also, don't forget to sign up for ABA Publishing's "Inside Practice" electronic newsletter which provides lists of important titles related to law practice management and increasing the stature of the profession. The signup for the newsletter can be found at <https://www.abanet.org/members/join/coa2.html>

## **New Booklet to Introduce Youth Courts to the Bench, Bar, and Public**

The ABA's new booklet, *Roadmap—Youth Courts: Young People Delivering Justice*, concisely introduces youth court to audiences that might be interested in supporting this rapidly growing program. Youth court, also known as teen court or peer jury, engages youth volunteers in helping their peers who have committed delinquent acts or have exhibited other problem behaviors. Youth courts are not formal courts, but commonly serve as sentencing hearings for first-time offenders who have acknowledged their guilt and agreed along with their parents or guardians to accept a sentence determined by their peers.

The 36-page booklet provides an overview of youth courts and describes their structure, funding, effectiveness, and challenges, as well as the collaboration needed among the legal, law enforcement, and education professions and the community and youth volunteers.

Free copies are being mailed to state and local bar association presidents, presidents-elect, and executive directors as well as to state supreme courts, juvenile and family court judges, governmental officials, and youth courts. Full text of the booklet will be posted on the ABA Web site at [www.abanet.org/justice](http://www.abanet.org/justice).

To order a complimentary copy – while quantities last -- call the ABA Service Center (800/285-2221) and request PC# 3460012. For further information, contact Paula Nessel, ABA Office of Justice Initiatives, 750 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60611; Fax: 312/988-6100; Email: [paulanessel@staff.abanet.org](mailto:paulanessel@staff.abanet.org). The booklet was produced by the American Bar Association's Coalition for Justice with support from the National Youth Court Center and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

## **GPSolo Magazine Is Available Online**

When your clients are called to serve, are you ready to serve them? Due to recent events, many lawyers are answering the call to assist military reservists who are mobilized for active duty. The ABA General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section has produced a special online-only issue of *GPSolo* magazine that will give you the information you need to serve our military reservists best. Get the latest on the key legal issues--student loan relief, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, reemployment rights of reservists, estate planning for the military, and survivor benefits--confronting reservists and their families now and in the future. To view the issue, please visit <http://www.abanet.org/genpractice/legalface/>

## **Interactive Writing Courses Bring Classroom to Your Lawyers**

A new series of interactive writing courses for busy lawyers brings the classroom to them at their convenience. Using a fast-paced, intuitive approach designed for a new medium and filled with animated lessons, *Advanced Writing for Lawyers with Gary Kinder* deviates from the standard text-based or "talking head" format used in most online learning programs.

Presented by the ABA Center for CLE and Young Lawyers Division, *Advanced Writing* is an immediate-feedback series of one-hour courses, that uses exercises culled from legal opinions, briefs, memoranda, letters and contracts to improve writing skills, and allows lawyers to take the courses at their own convenience and pace.

Power Editing: Part I, the first course in the three-part series, is available on the ABA Center for CLE Web site at [www.abanet.org/cle/ecl/i02awli.html](http://www.abanet.org/cle/ecl/i02awli.html). Part I shows lawyers how to recognize and delete unnecessary words to make their writing more concise and accessible. The final exercise challenges them to reduce a 104-word paragraph written by a federal judge to 60 words.

The cost of each course is \$50 for individual lawyers; \$45 per lawyer for groups of 10 to 49; and \$40 per lawyer for groups of 50 or more

For more information, please contact Larry Koplow, ABA Center for CLE, at 312/988-6198 or [koplowl@staff.abanet.org](mailto:koplowl@staff.abanet.org)

## **ABA, West Group to conduct CLE Web casts**

The ABA and West Group have agreed to provide online ABA CLE programming through West's LegalEdcenter, [www.westlegaledcenter.com](http://www.westlegaledcenter.com), West Group's online CLE service. ABA sections, divisions and committees will work with West to offer selected CLE programming via webcast. ABA CLE providers are working with West and the ABA to determine the most suitable programs for presentation.

## *Events*

### **National Conference on Professional Responsibility**

The ABA Center for Professional Responsibility is holding the 28th annual National Conference on Professional Responsibility on May 30-June 1, 2002 in Vancouver, British Columbia at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel. Attendees have the opportunity to formally and informally 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 includes recognized experts on professional responsibility who provide written materials, present plenary discussions and direct panel workshops 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, visit the conference Web site at [www.abanet.org/cpr/prconf.html](http://www.abanet.org/cpr/prconf.html) or contact the center at [ctrprofresp@abanet.org](mailto:ctrprofresp@abanet.org)

### **Conference to Address Minority and Disabled Lawyers Participation in Bar Associations**

The Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession and the Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law will be co-sponsoring a session on how minority and disabled lawyers can become more effectively involved and integrated in the legal profession through bar association activities. The session will take place during the ABA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC this summer. Please visit our Web site at [www.abanet.org/minorities](http://www.abanet.org/minorities) for a complete and detailed schedule or call Candace Smith at 312/988-5508.

## **Annual Meeting CLE Sessions to Cover Uses of Technology in the Law Practice**

The ABA Law Practice Management Section will be holding special CLE classes at the ABA Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. from August 8-13, 2002. The sessions will cover technology, best Web practices and new billing methods.

For more information on the meeting and Law Practice Management's sessions, please contact Eileen Coppel at 312/988-5654 or [CoppelE@staff.abanet.org](mailto:CoppelE@staff.abanet.org) or visit the section's Web site at [www.abanet.org/lpm/default.shtml](http://www.abanet.org/lpm/default.shtml).

## ***People***

Christopher "Kit" Conner resigned as Vice President of the Pennsylvania Bar, due to his nomination February 28 to a judgeship in the Middle District of Pennsylvania of the U.S. District Court.

Judy Edwards is the new Executive Director of Multnomah (OR) Bar Association. She can be reached at 503/222-3275.

Pat Hahn of the Northern Kentucky Bar Association is retiring this month.

Victoria Newbill is the new executive director of the Clark County Bar Association (WA). She can be reached at 360/737-6891.