Cosponsorship of programs with other organizations may be permitted with Operations and Communications Committee approval; however, any program which is submitted to the Board for programmatic approval does not also require Operations and Communications Committee action. Any negative decision of the Operations and Communications Committee can be appealed to the Board of Governors.

ABA cosponsorship may be permitted under the following Guidelines for Cosponsorship of Programs/Activities with Other Organizations:

1. The program/activity significantly advances the purposes of the ABA and one or more ABA goals or objectives or otherwise provides identifiable benefits to the ABA, its members and/or the public in furtherance of ABA purposes and/or goals.

2. The ABA and the other organization each have significant and meaningful participation in and responsibility for the planning and implementation of the program/activity and any resultant publication or printed work product.

3. The program/activity will not result in policy statements which could be attributable to the ABA without the prior approval of the ABA House of Delegates or the Board of Governors or which would be in conflict with any existing ABA policy.

4. The program/activity budget is fiscally sound and is not likely to expose the ABA to liability for unanticipated expenses and/or net losses.

Cosponsorship of programs/activities with other organizations which is consistent with these guidelines may be permitted with prior Operations and Communications Committee approval. Requests for ABA cosponsorship of programs/activities in which the ABA’s participation and responsibility in planning and implementation is only minimal, but which provide identifiable benefits to the ABA, will be given serious consideration by the Committee. Any negative decision of the Committee may be appealed to the full Board of Governors. Any program/activity
which has been submitted to and received programmatic approval encompassing cosponsorship from the Board of Governors will not require separate approval for cosponsorship. Requests for continuing legal education (CLE) programs will continue to require approval from the Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education {formerly Standing Committee on Continuing Education of the Bar} in accordance with policy adopted by the ABA Board in July 1985, or as it may be amended by the Board from time to time.

The Operations and Communications Committee of the Board of Governors may approve requests from Association entities for cosponsorship of programs or activities with other organizations without a vote of the full Committee under the following conditions:

1. The application for cosponsorship meets the guidelines adopted by the Board of Governors.

2. The Staff person assigned to the Committee reviews the application.

3. The Committee member appointed by the Committee Chair to review applications for cosponsorship reviews the application, verifies that it meets the Guidelines, determines that it does not raise material concerns, including concerns about the use of the ABA brand or the identity of the proposed cosponsor, and notifies the staff that the application has his or her approval.

4. The Committee's staff person shall circulate the application to the Committee with the notation that it has been approved by the designated Committee member. Any committee member may object to the application. If an objection is received, the staff person shall advise the Committee Chair who shall ask for a vote on whether the application shall be approved. The vote may be taken by electronic means such as e-mail between regular meetings of the Committee.

(BOG 7/85; Amended 2/90; Amended 2/12)