Comings and Goings

Arapahoe County Bar Association (CO)
Angel McCall (arapbar@m-s-lawyers.com) is the new executive director.

Arlington County Bar Association (VA)
Christina Hayes (acbaxdir@juno.com) assumed the role of executive director in late June.

Cincinnati Bar Association
The Cincinnati Bar Association is on the move. Having purchased a new building in July, the bar is moving into its new digs effective November 1st. The building, which is five stories tall and nearly 35,000 square feet, is located at the 225 E. Sixth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202. The bar will occupy about 50 percent of the building and lease the remaining space.

Kane County Bar Association (IL)
Jan Wade (director@kanebar.org) is the new executive director.

Monterey County Bar Association (CA)
Susan Goodrich has left her position as executive director.

Association of the Bar of the City of New York
Carol A. Seelig is leaving her position as the director of the bar’s Small Law Firm Center.

San Bernardino Bar Association (CA)
Vic Hochee, executive director, has retired. Allan Turner (turner@sbcba.org) is the new executive director.

San Diego County Bar Association
Sheree Swetin (sswelstin@sdcba.org) is joining the bar as executive director on October 1. Ms. Swetin was previously staff director for the ABA’s Division of Legal Services and had worked at the ABA for 19 years.

Santa Monica Bar Association
Elaine Glass has left the position of executive director of the Santa Monica Bar Association.

Washtenaw County Bar Association (MI)
Judith Van Amburg (vanamburgj@co.washtenaw.mi.us) is the new executive director.

The Florida Bar
Pat Stephens has left The Florida Bar to assume the position of director at the Florida Association of Women Lawyers. Ms. Stephens worked at the bar for 10 years.

ABA
Mary Kay Rockwell has left her position as director of ABA Publishing. Ms. Rockwell, who worked for the ABA for 5 years, is moving back to Colorado.

Faye Silas has left her position as editor of Bar Leader in the Division of Bar Services. A replacement has yet to be named.

Conferences

More Chicago, San Francisco Annual Meetings to Come

Feeling bummed that the Chicago Cubs were out of town for the Annual Meeting? Don’t worry, there will be plenty more chances to see them as the ABA has selected Chicago and San Francisco as “prime host” cities for the Annual Meeting. Starting in 2007, the Annual Meetings will be rotated between Chicago, San Francisco, and a “wild-card” city. Here is a recap of upcoming Annual Meeting cities:
2002 – Washington, D.C.
2003- San Francisco, CA
2004- Atlanta, GA
2005- Chicago, IL
2006- Honolulu, HI
Building Community Partnerships Focus of October Conference

The ABA Coalition for Justice will host its 2001 Forum on Justice Improvements, October 26-28, 2001, in Washington, DC, at the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel. This year's forum will focus on building community partnerships. The goal of the conference is to bring together leaders in the judiciary, the bar and the community for an open dialogue about justice in the new century and to develop methods for improving the justice system by starting at the grassroots level.

The American Medical Association and leading medical doctors will give examples of how the medical community has come together with community organizations and others to stem the tide of gun-related injuries, without turning to legislation or gun control debates. Mark your calendars for this exciting, informative forum. Check the Coalition's website at www.abanet.org/justice for more information or call Eileen Gallagher at 312/988-5105 or gallaghe@staff.abanet.org.

Administrative Law Conference in Washington, D.C.

The 2001 Administrative Law Conference will take place from November 1-3, 2001 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Washington, DC. This is the premiere conference on administrative law and regulatory practice issues in the country and will feature a variety of CLE programs plus the annual section awards luncheon and section dinner. This year the dinner will honor past administrators of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. For further information, visit www.abanet.org/adminlaw/calendar.html or contact Christopher Dye at DyerC@staff.abanet.org.

News/Issues Updates

ABA President Robert Hirshon Announces Major Initiatives for 2001-2002 Bar Year

ABA President Robert Hirshon recently announced the two major issues that will be addressed during his tenure at the helm of the ABA. The ABA Board of Governors has approved the creation of separate commissions that will study the effect of increased billable hours on the law community, as well as the effect of law school debt on young lawyers’ career choices. Work is already underway by the following two commissions:

The **Commission on Billable Hours** will investigate and report on the effect of billable hours on the legal profession. There is a growing concern among lawyers and judges that the demands of increased billable hours are compromising the health and well-being of lawyers and, thereby, the communities in which they live. The commission will gather information through a variety of means including secondary research, hearings and focus groups. In addition, the commission will make recommendations to the American Bar Association and the profession as a whole on ways to address the issues raised. The commission is co-chaired by Jeffery Liss, chief operating officer of Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe, and Anastasia Kelly, general counsel of Sears, Roebuck and Co. Communication with this commission should be made through Michael McGrath, 312/988-5137 or mcgrathm@staff.abanet.org.

The **Commission on Loan Repayment and Forgiveness** will investigate the effects of the increased debt burden that law school graduates face. Evidence suggests that law students are making career decisions based solely on the amount of their law school debt. Reports indicate that students are turning away from government, public service and legal services positions because those positions do not offer salaries large enough for graduates to pay down their debt. The commission will examine the problem and its consequences and recommend solutions to the association and the profession. The commission is co-chaired by Judge Frank M. Coffin of the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Boston and Curtis Caton, member of the firm Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe, LLP, in San Francisco. Communication with this commission should be made through Dina Merrell, 312/988-5773 or merrelld@staff.abanet.org.
Alfred P. Carlton, Jr., elected ABA President-Elect

Alfred P. Carlton, Jr., of North Carolina, a partner in The Sanford Holshouser Law Firm in Raleigh, has become President-elect of the American Bar Association.

Mr. Carlton is a lifelong resident of the Tar Heel state and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law. He also holds a Master’s of Public Administration from the University of Dayton.

Carlton, long active in the ABA, most recently chaired the Standing Committee on Judicial Independence, where he worked to promote awareness of the need for an independent judiciary and reform of judicial elections. Carlton will continue to work on judicial issues during his tenure as ABA president-elect and president.

From 1996-98, Carlton chaired the policy-making House of Delegates, the ABA’s second highest office. He has been a member of the House since 1987, and also served from 1982-1984.

Mr. Carlton’s legal career has focused on general corporate law with an emphasis on regulated industries, corporate and public finance, and financial and nonprofit institutions.

House of Delegates Considers Ethics 2000 Report

At the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago, the House of Delegates began reviewing the Ethics 2000 report that called for changes to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Although votes were cast on about a quarter of the report’s recommendations, the changes will not take place until the entire report is approved, which could take place at the midyear meeting in Philadelphia.

Regarding the recommendations that were voted on, the house:

- Declined to require lawyers to put all fee agreements with their clients in writing. Under existing rules, only contingent fees must be committed to writing.
- Adopted a requirement that clients sign express agreements when they waive conflicts of interest.
- Adopted a prohibition on lawyers having sex with their clients, except when the sexual relationship predated the lawyer-client relationship.
- Expanded discretion of lawyers to reveal confidential information to prevent reasonably certain death or substantial bodily harm, but not to prevent a client from using the lawyer’s services to commit crimes or frauds reasonably certain to result in substantial injury to the financial interests or property of another.

For more information about the Ethics 2000 report, please visit the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility’s Web site at www.abanet.org/cpr/ethics2k.html

2002 Law Day Theme Selected

The theme of Law Day 2002 (May 1, 2002) will be "Celebrate Your Freedom: Assuring Equal Justice for All."

The theme focuses on America's efforts to make equal justice a reality for all of our citizens. The theme encompasses:

- Efforts to extend legal aid to those in need through, for example, the Legal Services Corporation, public defender programs, and private efforts such as pro bono.
- Efforts to make courts more efficient by eliminating delays.
- Implementation of more user-friendly procedures.
- Efforts to make American justice equal regardless of color, gender, disability, or economic status.
- Debates regarding equality of justice in other areas: education, health care, etc.

Visit the Law Day Web site--www.lawday.org--to sign up for a free planning guide and to keep track of Law Day developments.
NY Is First State to Adopt MDP Rules

New York became the first state in the nation to adopt Multidisciplinary Practice (MDP) rules on July 24, 2001, when the state’s four Appellate Division departments issued a joint order based on guidelines published by the New York State Bar Association.

The first of the two new disciplinary rules provides clear direction for lawyers who practice two professions or who provide nonlegal services directly to clients or to the general public. Unless the professions are clearly separated, the lawyer will be bound by the legal ethics rules in the performance of the nonlegal services.

The second new rule establishes strict guidelines for lawyers who enter into contractual relationships with nonlegal professional service providers. In order to do so, the nonlegal profession must have certain minimal educational standards and enforceable rules of ethical conduct. The new rule makes clear that the nonlawyer can have no control over the manner in which the lawyer or law firm practices law.

ABA Resources

Tired of Searching for Information and Speakers About Technology?

The ABA Legal Technology Resource Center is your one stop shop for technology solutions. The center’s Web site contains an excellent guide specifically geared toward implementing technology in bar associations and foundations. This is a must-read and bookmark for everyone involved in bar associations. The Web guide can be located at www.abanet.org/tech/ltrc/barassns/guidehome.html.

The guide contains links in the following categories:

- General Technology Resources
- Technology and the Future
- Technology Studies/Surveys
- Technology Planning
- Technology Funding/Fundraising
- Web Site Development/E-Commerce
- Software, Application Service Providers (ASPs)
- Virtual Volunteering
- Community Building/Online Advocacy
- Technology Training
- Directory of Discussion Lists/Newsletter

For further information, please contact Kathryn Thompson at ThompsK@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5030.

If you are looking for speakers for technology CLE’s or general presentations about the role of technology in bars, the center can help as well. The center's research specialists speak regularly on trends affecting bar associations and lawyers. Upcoming presentations by the center’s staff are scheduled for this fall at the Montana, New York, and Iowa bar associations. Learn more about the center's activities at www.lawtechnology.org. If you are interested in having a specialist at your event, contact the center's director, David Whelan, at wheland@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5026.

ABA creates ‘Rights and Responsibilities Card”

Hoping to prevent a repeat of last year’s presidential election controversy, the ABA has created a “Rights and Responsibilities Card” that instructs voters to inspect ballots, familiarize themselves with the voting procedure and ask for assistance if they become confused. The card, which was created by the ABA’s Standing Committee on Election Law, is being distributed through local and national civic organizations. If you are interested in obtaining cards for local distribution, please contact Elizabeth Yang at 202/662-1692 or election@abanet.org.
Help with Advertising Has Arrived

The Advertising Survey & White Paper, which provides baseline data regarding advertising revenue and policies as well as publication expenses at bar associations is available online at www.abanet.org/barserv/adsurvey/adsurvey.html and www.nabenet.org. The paper was produced jointly by the ABA Division for Bar Services and the NABE Communications Section as a result of increased discussion of advertising issues on various NABE listervs.

Lawyer Impairment Resource is Available at the Bar Services Library

By now, most of you should have received a copy of “Bumps in the Road,” which focuses on lawyer impairment and what the law profession is doing to help impaired lawyers. The publication was published by the ABA’s GP, Solo and Small Firm section. If you didn’t receive a copy, please contact Dan Rubin at drubin@staff.abanet.org.

Educating Law Students About Pro Bono

If your bar is working with a local law school, you should check out The Path to Pro Bono: An Interviewing Tool for Law Students, which outlines how law students can evaluate a potential firm’s commitment to Pro Bono work. Published by the ABA’s Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service and its project, the Center for Pro Bono, the guide educates law students about how to ask potential employers about their pro bono efforts and practices.

The guide was published last year on the ABA Web site but has been revised and is now available in hard copy for distribution. Printed copies are available by contacting the ABA Center for Pro Bono at 312/988-5769. The online guide is available at the ABA Division for Legal Services Web site at www.abanet.org/legalservices/pbpubs.html by clicking on “The Path to Pro Bono” link.

Solo and Small Firm Services Subgrants Available – Deadline Approaching

The ABA Standing Committee on Solo and Small Firm Practitioners will once again sponsor the Solo and Small Firm Subgrant Program. These subgrants are designed to provide seed money to bar entities for member services specifically targeting solo and small firm practitioners.

Applications can be found at www.abanet.org/solo/subgrant.html. Hurry, applications are due September 15, 2001, and winners will be announced on October 1, 2001.

New ABA Member Benefit for Small and Medium Law Firms

Under an agreement with Paychex, Inc., ABA members will receive a 15 percent discount on basic payroll outsourcing. Services include preparation of employee payroll checks and statements, accounting records and management reports, tax payment notices and payroll tax returns for federal, state and local jurisdictions. Current Paychex clients can call their local branch for details.

For additional information on Paychex, Inc., services and the ABA member discount, call 800-729-2439.

The ABA Member Advantage Program includes discounts on products and services lawyers use at home and in the office. Additional information is available online at www.abanet.org/advantage or by contacting the ABA Service Center at 800-285-2221.

ABA Book Publishing Discount Program

You 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.

One publication available through this program is Trends in Land Use Law A-Z: Adult Uses to Zoning, edited by Patricia E. Salkin. Recently published by the State and Local Government Law Section, this book addresses issues in planning and zoning decision making. It will bring your members up-to-date on the most current land use cases through 2001 and discusses how these cases and issues will impact their practice. The book also analyzes everything from the newest cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court to actions by Congress and local governments, giving practical insights on effective legal strategies and preventive law techniques for those who represent the public sector.
National Directory of Women-Owned Law Firms
The National Association of Women Lawyers is compiling the third edition of *The National Directory of Women-Owned Law Firms and Women Lawyers*. The directory collects under one cover the names and specialties of hundreds of women lawyers who practice throughout the United States. NAWL distributes the publication at no cost to bar and professional associations and in-house counsel at many of the largest corporations throughout the United States. Applications for inclusion in the upcoming edition can be found at www.abanet.org/nawl or by contacting Lisa Smith, executive director of NAWL, at 312/988-6186.

Get the Scoop from Media Relations
Click on the ABA Division for Media Relations and Communication Services Web site (www.abanet.org/media/home.html) to learn more about noteworthy legal topics and decisions made by the American Bar Association.

What’s Going on in Washington, D.C.?
Keep track of the latest news in legislative and governmental advocacy by logging on to the ABA Governmental Affairs Office’s Web site (www.abanet.org/poladv/home.html).

Featured Bar Program
From time to time, the *Miscellaneous Memo* will take an in-depth look at a state or local bar program that is making a difference in the community or drastically changing the way bar associations operate. In this issue, we look at the Utah State Bar’s first step into conducting official bar business over the Web. Submissions for future stories are always welcome, please send them to Dan Rubin – drubin@staff.abanet.org.

Utah State Bar Goes Digital
The Utah State Bar is aiming to take a little paperwork off the desks of its state’s lawyers and ease the hassle of licensing with the nation’s first online licensing system with digital signatures. Beginning in June, bar members can go online, obtain their own digital signature, complete their licensing form and then sign and submit it entirely over the Internet.

Over 10% of the state’s lawyers have accessed the online registration system and obtained their digital signatures. Digital signatures are administered by a third party which verifies a person’s identity and then places verification software on a user’s computer that allows for watermarking and encryption. Digital Signature Trust Co., based in Salt Lake City, UT, is the third party verification company and is providing the digital signatures free of charge to Utah State Bar members. Digital Signature is partially owned by Zion’s National Bank, which underwrote the cost of distributing a CD-ROM to all of Utah’s lawyers as well as the Web site that acts as a “signing room” for users.

“We have been really happy with the results so far,” said Toby Brown, director of communications and member benefits for the bar. “The driving force behind this was to expose members to new technologies and get them used to doing things online.”

Digital signatures work by placing encrypted “keys” on a specific computer which verifies that a user is indeed the intended signer of a document. These “keys” then place an electronic watermark on documents that can be decoded by the receiver of the information to confirm the authenticity. Digital signatures provide more definitive proof than traditional “Submit” or “Process” buttons on the Web because a third-party verification service backs up the claim that the user who submits the forms is indeed that actual person.

“What this system gives lawyers right now is convenience and education,” said Jim Palmer, director of solutions architecture for Digital Signature Trust. “But eventually what we would like to do is take paper out of transactions entirely.”

The Utah State Bar had been piloting the system for nearly two years before rolling it out to the entire state, said Brown, who has been handling the project for the bar and is looking to expand the system into CLE reporting by the end of the year.
“Lawyers have been asking the bar what exactly is enforceable over the Internet,” said Brown. “There are lots of things that are enforceable, but the digital signatures bring an added layer of trust.”

Utah has been on the forefront of enabling the court system to go online. Besides the bar’s activities, a pilot program is currently underway in Salt Lake County which allows lawyers to file court papers online.

Palmer said that digital signatures are the first step in allowing lawyers to conduct client business over the Internet. But in a profession that is sometimes criticized as being slow in adopting new technologies, questions remain on whether law firms are going to be willing to trust their confidential documents to the Web.

“What we have to do for lawyers is show them a strong value proposition – and we believe we are doing that,” Palmer said. “There are obvious cost savings involved with digital delivery but also time savings as well.”

Brown said the biggest roadblock in implementing the system was overcoming older versions of Web browsers.

“What we saw was that some people wanted the signatures, but couldn’t do it because their browsers didn’t support enough encryption,” he said.

Share the Wealth

News Updates

Bars Find a New Home

Two bars on opposite ends of the country opened up new Web sites recently. The St. Petersburg Bar Association can now be found at www.stpetebar.com and the Santa Clara County Bar Association can be found at www.sccba.com. If you are interested in working with the Santa Clara County Bar in developing an automated Lawyer Referral Service and Fee Arbitration or other Web based programs, please call Associate Executive Director Heather Elrick Forbes at heather@scbcba.com.

Also, the Allegheny County Bar Foundation (PA), the non-profit arm of the Allegheny County Bar Association, officially launched its new Web site in late June. The foundation’s new home is www.acbf.org.

Meanwhile, three other bars in Southern California are joining forces to create a single Web site. The Long Beach Bar Association, Palo Alto Bar Association, and the San Bernardino County Bar Association will soon have a joint web site. The San Bernardino Bar can be found at www.sbcba.org and the temporary home for the Long Beach and Palo Alto bars is located at www.sbcba.org/allcalbars.net/LBBA.

Arizona Bar Foundation

Project Aims to Help Victims of Domestic Violence

The Arizona Bar Foundation administers and coordinates the Arizona Domestic Violence Legal Assistance Project, which provides free legal assistance to victims of domestic violence and their families through three legal services programs and fourteen domestic violence programs across Arizona. The Foundation funds staff attorneys in the state’s legal services programs to provide legal advice to victims and direct representation in more complex cases of domestic violence.

The project was started with seed money from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Violence Against Women Office last September and is now partially funded with a $1.2 million grant from the Arizona Department of Economic Security to help low-income victims of domestic violence.

For more information about the project, please contact Kelly Carmody at 602/340-7356 or Kelly.Carmody@staff.azbar.org.

Maryland State Bar Association

Maryland High School Students Work as Interns in Law Firms

For eight weeks this summer, Maryland high school students worked as interns in local law firms and law-related agencies. Through LAW LINKS, the Maryland State Bar Association's (MSBA) student/law firm internship program, thirty-one high school students in Baltimore City, and twenty-two in Prince George's County, had the opportunity to serve as law firm interns and be paid for their summer employment. MSBA offers this internship annually to give young people a paid professional and educational summer experience.
Spotlight on Lawyers at the Maryland State Fair
In addition to the rides, animals, arts, crafts, food, agricultural exhibits, midway sights and horse racing, this year's Maryland State Fair shined the spotlight on Maryland lawyers. MSBA members, many of them thespians at heart, have become a popular attraction at this annual event. Throughout the course of the ten-day fair, August 25 through September 3, volunteer attorneys and judges staged the lively Trial By Jury: The Lawyer's Craft performances on the Grand Bandstand, which entertained audiences of fairgoers with theatrical courtroom drama. Contact Janet Eveleth (jeveleth@msba.org) for more information.

New Hampshire Bar Association

Local Outreach Program Bringing Issues to Small Bars
The New Hampshire Bar Association went on the road recently with a presentation titled “Can the Legal Profession Survive the Dot.comet” and visited all 10 counties in New Hampshire. The presentation detailed the various economic and demographic forces that are changing the practice of law, and discussion focused on how lawyers can better service clients and provide a high level of quality and professionalism.

Dan Wise, communications director of the New Hampshire bar, said the state’s lawyers do not feel that all the major issues and trends that are facing larger populations are relevant to their practice. However, Mr. Wise said the program was a success because it has re-energized both the bar and its members to look at the future of the profession. He also noted that bar members really enjoyed working on the project and discussing the complex issue of practicing law in the future.

For the next local outreach program, the New Hampshire bar is planning on presenting a series of videotaped segments and facilitated discussion meetings to focus on court reform initiatives that are currently being debated in the N.H. legislature. The program will kick off in the fall and include use of a listserv to spur discussion. For more information, contact Dan Wise at 603/224-6942 or dwise@nhbar.org

State Bar of New Mexico

Bar Offers Leadership Training Institute
The bar is offering the first lawyers' leadership training institute for lawyers who aspire to be leaders. Whether serving as a leader in the legal profession or in other professional, political, judicial, civic or community organizations, this four-month institute is intended to provide the knowledge and skills needed to effectively communicate, motivate and inspire. The first session is 9/7/2001. Contact Cheryl Bruce for more information at 505/797-6000.

New York State Bar Association

Journalist Handbook Helps Reporters Covering New York Courts
The NYSBA, in conjunction with the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University and the New York State Publishers Association, has produced a new edition of the Legal Handbook for New York State Journalists. The 24-chapter book, prepared in loose-leaf format, guides reporters and editors in covering New York’s courts and the legal system. Topics include libel, journalist privilege, coverage of cases involving juveniles, and access issues. Contact Bradley G. Carr at 518/487-5330 or bcarr@nysba.org for more information.

New Committee on Law School Debt
A new committee has been formed by the NYSBA to look at how law school debt is affecting young lawyers and the public they serve. For more information about the committee, contact Diane Burman at 518/487-5640 or dburman@nysba.org.
Denver Bar Association

Local Firms Begin Specializing in Pro Bono Cases
The Denver Bar Association’s pro bono arm, Metro Volunteer Lawyers, has found an answer to the age-old question of finding attorneys to take pro bono in areas of law in which they are not specifically trained. Now, several mid- and large-size firms have agreed to take certain kinds of cases and specialize in them. Local firm Dorsey and Whitney is taking all cases dealing with car repossessions, Arnold & Porter has agreed to do adoptions, Faegre and Benson takes post decree cases and Holland & Hart deals with mobile home evictions. Specializing in different law areas within one firm makes it easier for attorneys to be mentored and also provides attorneys with easy research and a base of knowledge. For more information, please contact Barb Chamberlain at 303/866-9378.

Houston Bar Association

Houston Legal Community Provides Legal Services to Victims of Tropical Storm Allison
The Houston Bar Association partnered with other state and local bar associations to provide legal services to victims of tropical storm Allison. Services included special disaster LegalLine programs during June and July to answer questions from the public on consumer's rights, landlord/tenant matters, FEMA applications, home and auto insurance claims, obtaining lost documents, and other legal issues. Volunteer attorneys also provided legal advice through a toll free, 24-hour number set up through the State Bar of Texas. Through the HBA's Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, attorneys are providing legal assistance in flood-related matters to those who meet income guidelines.
In addition, volunteer lawyers staffed FEMA booths and attended community forums to answer legal questions. The HBA offered assistance for attorneys displaced by flooding, and the HBA Web site carried detailed questions and answers about flood related issues, including housing, consumer law and insurance, as well as updated information about the courts, jury service, and other disaster resources. Contact Tara Shockley (TaraS@hba.org) for more information.

Lake County Bar Association (OH)

100th Anniversary is Upcoming
Plans are underway for the Lake County Bar Association’s 100th anniversary celebration. A semi-formal dinner dance is scheduled for March 2, 2002, at LaMalfa Centre on Heisley Road in Mentor, OH.

Palm Beach County Bar Association

Young Lawyers’ Section Brings Computers to Youths
The Michelle Project, which helps brings computers to Florida children living in foster homes, received 10 new computers from the Young Lawyers’ Section of the Palm Beach County Bar Association on August 15. The Michelle Project has won the Significant Single Project Award from the Florida Bar for two consecutive years. For more information contact Patience Burns at pburns@palmbeachbar.org.

Washoe County Bar Association (Reno, NV)

Bar Association Tackles Tough Issues with Teens
The Washoe County Bar Association convened a town meeting in Reno, NV, to discuss three issues that are facing today’s teenage population – debt, alcohol and sex. At the town meeting, 65 teens listened to experts on the issues and watched a video that was produced by WCBA officers and committee members. The panels included local judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and local health officials.

A unique way of getting the assembled teens involved in the presentation was the use of PowerPoint responder slides, which enabled the teens to voice their thoughts and opinions. A videotape of the event is being produced and will be shown on local television. A similar program is also being planned for the elderly of Washoe County and will occur in the spring of 2002.

For more information, please contact Christine Cendagorta, executive director of the bar association, at 775/786-4494 or chris@wecbar.org