Michael A. Hordell, Chair

The state of the Section is sound. Our financial assets have never been higher, and our membership assets firmly remain on the plateau established by the Section—highest dedication with diversity of perspectives, intellect, and character.

My year as the Section’s chair was a tremendous experience. I want to thank all of you for the honor of serving as Section chair, following in a long line of chairs held in high esteem. What became clear early in my year as chair was that in order to build on what the Section previously accomplished and to maintain or exceed the high standards expected from our Section, the Section membership would have to play a significant role. You came through, as in the past, and together we made great strides in moving the Section forward, addressing the difficult issues of growing the membership base, and increasing our financial strength. Our financial strength has also been bolstered by our sponsorship program implemented by the Outside Funding Committee under the leadership of Pat Meagher and Peter Balch. As this year has progressed and her time as chair approaches, Pat Meagher has been transitioning her role on the Outside Funding Committee to Peter Balch. This year, our program sponsors were: Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC; FTI Consulting; Moss Adams LLP; PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP; and Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. This is yet another example of the great teamwork within our Section that will guarantee our future success.

Our committees, which are the lifeblood of the Section, did yeoman's work on many issues and assisted in making the Council meetings more substantive by presenting special reports addressing current issues of interest. The Battle Space and Contingency Procurement Committee worked on comments concerning the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) proposed rules on contractor personnel on the battlefield. After Council review and approval, the Section submitted comments relating to the DFARS and FAR proposed rules. The Section also commented upon issues raised by the United States Department of Commerce’s (DOC) Procurement Memorandum 2007-01, “Contract Performance During Pandemic Influenza Outbreak, SARS Outbreak, or other Biomedical Emergency or Catastrophe.” The Model Procurement Code Committee, in coordination with the Section of State and Local Government Law, worked on comments concerning the Model Public Private Partnerships (PPP) Legislation posted on the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Web site. These comments, after the Council approved, were provided to the ABA’s legislative counsel for formal submission by the ABA to the FHWA. The Professional Responsibility and Contracting Ethics Committee addressed issues raised by FAR Case 2006-07, “Contractor Code of Ethics and Business Conduct.” The comments resulting from its review and Council’s review and approval were submitted to the General Services Administration. 

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The Section continued to focus on expanding its reach and accomplishments at Nashville.

Meeting Information: The committee generally meets the first Thursday of the month at noon (lunch served) at the Washington, D.C., office of Miller & Chevalier Chtd., 655 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-5799. Teleconferencing connections are available for those outside the Washington area. Contacts: Daniel R. Allemeier, (310) 317-5851 or email drallemeier@hrl.com; Anne M. Donohue, (703) 227-7062 or email anne_donohue@sra.com; Daniel E. Doogan, (313) 665-4733 or email daniel.doogan@gm.com; and Robert K. Huffman, (202) 626-5824 or email rhuffman@milchev.com. For contact information and more information on this and other committees, visit the Section Web site at www.abanet.org/contract/home/html. Click on “Substantive Committees” on the left-hand navigation bar.