



Election Notice

Section members attending the 2005 Annual Meeting in Chicago will elect officers and new Council members. Voting will take place on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 7 from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Section's Hospitality Room at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Chicago.

To be eligible to vote a member must be registered for the ABA Annual Meeting and a member of the section, whose good standing can be certified by official Association records for the 30 days prior to the day of voting.

The slate of candidates will be officially announced at the Section's First Business Meeting, on Friday, Aug. 5 at 8:30 a.m. Election results will be announced at the Section's Second Business Meeting, on Sunday, Aug 7 at 11:30 a.m. Both Business Meetings will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Chicago.

The Section's nominating committee has met and filed its report and slate of nominees as follows:

For Chair-Elect – 1 position, 1 year term
JAMES B. PRESTON, Visalia, CA

For Vice Chair – 1 position, 1 year term
GREGG HERMAN, Milwaukee, WI

For Secretary – 1 position, 1 year term
ANITA VENTRELLI, Chicago, IL

Section Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates – 1 position, 3 year term
MARSHALL J. WOLF, Cleveland, OH

Council Members-at-Large – 3 positions, 3 year terms
MELISSA AVERY, Indianapolis, IN
MITCHELL KARPF, North Miami Beach, FL
RANDY KESSLER, Atlanta, GA

Region III Council Representative – 1 position, 3 year term
SCOTT FRIEDMAN, Columbus, OH

Region V Council Representative – 1 position, 3 year term
HON. DEBRA LEHRMANN, Fort Worth, TX

In addition, Section member Lynne Z Gold-Bikin, Norristown, PA, has filed a petition and declared her candidacy for Section Delegate. Therefore, the seat of Section Delegate will be determined by a contested election between Gold-Bikin and Marshall J. Wolf. Following in alphabetical order, are statements from the two candidates.

Statements from the Candidates

Lynne Z. Gold-Bikin, Esq.

I have devoted many years of my career to advancing the stature of the ABA and showing the public and lawyers how the ABA can help them in many ways. From my service as President of the Law Student Division, to Chair of the Family Law Section, along the way being Co-Chair of the ABA Domestic Violence Commission, Representative to the ABA House of Delegates for nine years, and serving on many ABA committees; I have established relationships that help our section negotiate and achieve our positions in the House. Achieving results in the ABA comes from having years of good relationships with people involved in the organization and having them know you can be trusted and relied on - a vote for me is a vote for such a person.

My service to our section includes 15 years as a faculty member of the ABA Trial Advocacy Institute - developing multi-dozens, if not hundreds, of new Family Law Section members. I have co-authored the Trial Practice Manual for the Section, and spearheaded the Partners Program, which teaches young people the skills they need to have a healthy marriage and which program won the SOC Award for the Section. I have contributed my royalties back to our Section to expand this program, which has been in over 1000 high schools, in 40 states, and garners wonderful publicity for divorce lawyers and especially our Section.

I am the first and only female that the Family Law Section has ever sent to the House of Delegates in its 40-year history. I have been an effective spokesperson in the House for our Section and ask for your support for another three-year term.

Marshall J. Wolf, Esq.

I respectfully request your support and your vote for the office of Section Delegate to which I have been nominated by the Nominating Committee.

Having served as Chair and in every office of the Section, including Section Delegate, I am aware that unlike the remaining officers and Council of the Section whose role it is to execute their collective vision for the Section, the Section Delegate's role is to advance that vision in the House of Delegates. I seek to return to the House of Delegates as your representative to resume my ability to advocate the Section's resolutions before the House, voice the will of Council concerning the resolutions of others, and act in the furtherance of the Section's interests.

During my service as Section Delegate, every resolution promulgated or cosponsored by the Section and brought before the House of Delegates was adopted. When the Section's concerns about resolutions of others were expressed, our position was advanced in a manner respected by others so that their positions were modified to meet the Section's objections. These rightful expectations of your Delegate as a representative of the Section always have been my guide. It is upon this record and representative philosophy that the Nominating Committee determined that it is in the Section's interest that I be recommended to represent you in the House of Delegates.

Having previously stood before you for election to every elective office of the Section, I do not propose to impose upon you with an ad nauseam list of my personal accomplishments within the Section. Instead, I simply respectfully ask that I receive your vote on Saturday or Sunday, August 6 and 7 so that we, together, may achieve the goals of the Family Law Section.