

President's Forum

Volume 2, Issue 1
Winter 2009



President's Message — Bar Leaders Join Forces to Share Ideas in Boston

Dates and Deadlines

2009 ABA

Bar Leadership Institute

March 12-14, 2009

Chicago, IL

Chicago Marriott Downtown

Contact: Karyn Linn

(312) 988-5350

ABA Day in Washington

April 21-23, 2009

Washington, DC

Hyatt Regency Washington

on Capitol Hill

Contact: Julie Strandlie

(202) 662-1764

NCBP/MBC Annual Meeting

July 30-August 1, 2009

Chicago, IL

Hyatt Regency Chicago

Contact: Pamela Robinson

(312) 988-5345

Contact Information

President's Forum promotes communication among members of the National Conference of Bar Presidents. All members are invited to send information on their bar's activities to:

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NCBP Web site

www.ncbp.org

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at www.ncbp.org



M. Joe Crosthwait

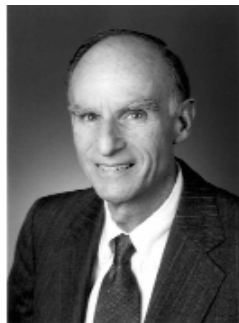
In *Metaphysica*, Aristotle argues that the whole is more than the mere sum of its parts, and that the parts create a synergy and an invisible, natural force rendering the whole different and better. So it is with the National Conference of Bar Presidents. Our bar leaders and their bars do not serve their constituents in isolation. Rather each occupies a unique place in the patchwork quilt labyrinth of our national and now global legal fabric, threading the heart, nerves and sinews together by a common commitment to the Rule of Law grounded in truth, fairness and equality under the law.

We come together in the NCBP to contribute to, experience, and maximize that synergy. We come together to share with others that which we have learned and experienced. We also assemble ourselves to discuss that for which we strive and about which we dream. Together we disseminate that force and its energy, through our communion of ideas and the sharing of resources, which advance us and allow us to be better stewards of our profession and the law. And lest we be dull bar leaders, we also convivate, synergistically of course!

This full force will come together in Boston at the Midyear Meeting. Our programming begins the morning of Friday the 13th of February (Remember, it's bad luck to be superstitious!) with what promises to be an interesting and informative program on bad leadership presented by Barbara Kellerman. She is the research director of the Center for Public Leadership and lecturer in public policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and has written and spoken quite extensively about leadership, including her book *Bad Leadership: What It Is, How It Happens, Why It Matters (Leadership for the Common Good)*. Drawing from the corporate, nonprofit, government and public opinion sectors, she examines instances of incompetence, rigidity,

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Boston Attorney Hammer is 2009 NCBP Fellows Award Recipient



Roy A. Hammer

Roy A. Hammer, of counsel to the Boston office of Hemenway & Barnes and past president of the Massachusetts Bar Association, is the 2009 recipient of the National Conference of Bar Presidents (NCBP) Fellows Award. The award recognizes the accomplishments of a past bar president who has demonstrated a continuing commitment to leadership, services the work of the organized bar and the purposes of the NCBP.

Mr. Hammer joined the law firm of Hemenway & Barnes in 1960, where he began his legal career of nearly five decades. He became a partner in 1966 and although he retired in 2006, he continues to be Of Counsel to the firm. He has concentrated his practice in the areas of estate planning, administration of trusts and estates and fiduciary activities. Roy has served in a variety of leadership roles at the local, state and national levels. He served on the Steering Committee for the Boston Bar Association's Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law for 10 years, from 1974 to 1984. Mr. Hammer was president of the Massachusetts Bar Association in 1978-1979. For 14 years, Roy was active in the administration of the Massachusetts Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Program.

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President's Message

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intemperance, callousness, corruption, insularity and even evil. I expect she will discuss these characteristics, which I hope we don't synergize, as well as the role of the co-dependents, i.e. followers in the manifestation of bad leadership.

And while I am certain none of us are possessed by or know leaders who are possessed of these characteristics such as she will describe, this will prepare us just in case.

The rest of the Boston programming, created by our Program Committee chaired by NCBP President-elect Mary Torres with the able assistance of Roseanne Lucianek, director of the ABA Division for Bar Services, will include a variety of topics to meet all needs and interests including diversity programs that work, the fiduciary responsibilities of our boards, lobbying legislatures effectively, getting new lawyers involved in the bar, engaging law schools in bar associations, and the crisis in funding for indigent defense.

We will also hear from the President of the ABA H. Thomas Wells, Jr. and ABA Executive Director Henry F. White, Jr. and we will be informed and entertained by the inimitable Michael Rubin.

And as a part of our convivium and for the real warmth of winter in Boston, the Friday evening reception will be at the Top of the Hub with spectacular views of this historic city after which we shall adjourn all to our separate dinners and plans.

To conclude, please know that my opportunity to serve as president of the NCBP this year, just like Chris Matthews, sends a tingle up my leg! I look forward to seeing each of you February 13 and 14 in Boston and May the Force Be With You!

NCBP Fellows Award Recipient

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He has been a director of the New England Bar Association and a trustee of the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education - New England Law Institute. On a national level, Roy served on the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association (ABA) and was a member of the ABA's House of Delegates from 1978 to 2006.

Mr. Hammer serves on the joint Board of the American Law Institute/American Bar Association Committee on Continuing Professional Education, has served as a member of the Executive Council of the National Conference of Bar Presidents and is a past trustee of the National Conference of Bar Foundations. Roy also served on the council of the ABA Fund for Justice and Education and is a past director of the American Judicature Society.

Mr. Hammer will be recognized at the joint awards luncheon of the National Conference of Bar Presidents, National Association of Bar Executives and the National Conference of Bar Foundations in Boston, on Friday, February 13.

CHICAGO

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting July 28-August 1, 2009

Register for the NABE/NCBP/NCBF 2009 Annual Meeting online at www.abanet.org/annual/2009 or download a faxable registration form at the same site. Be sure to select the NABE/NCBP/NCBF option or form.

The early registration deadline is May 29, 2009.

Advance registration closes July 7, 2009.

Send your registration questions to NABE-NCBP-NCBFregistration@staff.abanet.org.

ABA Bar Leadership Institute—March 12-14, 2009

Presidents-elect of state, local or special-focus bar associations should plan to attend the ABA Bar Leadership Institute, the premier program that will help them implement a successful presidential year. Four core challenges will be addressed:

- Leadership
- Governance
- Finance
- Communications

For program details or to register, visit the BLI web site at www.abanet.org/barserv/bli.html.

You can also contact Quander Abercrombie at abercroq@staff.abanet.org or 312/988-5343.

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Spirit of Excellence Award Recipient to Address NCBP Diversity Forum in Boston



Richard A. Soden

Boston attorney Richard A. Soden will address the NCBP Forum on Ethnic and Racial Diversity during the 2009 NCBP Midyear Meeting in Boston. A past president of the Boston Bar Association, Mr. Soden is chair of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers Oversight Committee and a member of the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission and the Massachusetts IOLTA Committee.

A former partner at Goodwin Procter LLP, Richard is now counsel in the firm's Business Law Department, specializing in corporate and securities law. Last November, he was elected as a minority member-at-large in the ABA Board of Governors. Active in the ABA, Mr. Soden is also a member of the Business Law Section, the Forum on Entertainment & Sports Industries and the Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity. He is also the former chair of the Standing Committee on Bar Services and Activities and the Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs.

Richard has also been active in the non-profit and charitable community for over 30 years, serving both as a lawyer and

as a member of the governing boards and officer of numerous charitable and civic organizations. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Northeast Region of the Boy Scouts of America, a member of the Overseers Advisory Board of WGBH and an overseer of the New England Aquarium. Mr. Soden is a recipient of this year's ABA Spirit of Excellence Award.

The NCBP Forum on Ethnic and Racial Diversity offers bar leaders interested in issues related to racial and ethnic diversity an opportunity to network and discuss matters of common concern. The session will be held on Friday, February 13 at the Marriott Copley Place, Grand Ballroom Salons A/B, 4th Floor, from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

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Save the Date!

**2nd ABA National Conference
on the Employment of
Lawyers with Disabilities**

**June 15-16, 2009
Washington, DC**



Hosted by ABA President H. Thomas Wells, Jr.

Conference Topics Will Include:

- Making the pledge to interview and hire lawyers with disabilities
- The transition from law student to lawyer with accommodations
- Best practices for hiring, retaining, and accommodating lawyers with disabilities

**Location: [Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel](#)
(room group code: "ABAABAA")**

For more information, including sponsorship opportunities, visit:
<http://www.abanet.org/disability/conferences/09conference.shtml>
or contact Michael J. Stratton at 202-662-1571 (phone) or CMPDL@abanet.org (e-mail).



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