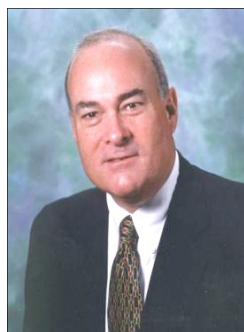


President's Forum

Volume 4, Issue 3
Spring 2011



President's Message—A Profession, Not Just a Job



James P. Nolan

As practicing attorneys and bar leaders, we all must keep in mind that the law is a profession and not just a job. We must step up our efforts to enhance the quality of life for practicing lawyers, especially our young lawyers, and to find ways of dealing with the ever-increasing dilemma of hourly billing requirements which have become such a problem. We need to find ways to dispel the notion that was articulated by renowned newspaper columnist George Will when he said, "Today's lawyers are 'connoisseurs of conflict' maximizing billable hours." Let's emphasize the motto of "Work to live, not live to work" and the reasons that we all became lawyers in the first place, which were certainly not to do wills, contracts or depositions.

While we continue to look at practice- and professional-related issues, we must also not forget our obligation, especially in light of the tragedies of September 11, 2001, in the United States which have been focused on recently, to protect the constitutional guarantees that afford all citizens of our respective countries rights which are not afforded to many other members of the world community. In the October 29, 2001 edition of *Time* magazine, the letters to the editor, which followed the horrific acts of terrorism on the United States of the prior month, were quite informative as to how we must act as lawyers to protect these rights during a time when certain politicians and members of the public seek to reduce them in the name of self-protectionism.

Certain of the letters stated in part, "in the name of protecting freedom, we'll watch our civil liberties diminish to near nothing. And what good is fighting for freedom if the freedom's gone?", and "Law, liberty, justice, freedom and fair play are not luxuries that we must regretfully abandon when the American way of life is threatened. They are the American way of life." We must do our part to see that the American and similar ways of life of

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Call for Nominations: NCBP Secretary, Executive Council

NCBP is seeking nominations for five at-large seats on the NCBP Executive Council as well as for the office of NCBP Secretary. Nominations may come from the interested member or may be submitted on behalf of the interested party by another individual.

Executive Council

The council serves as the governing board of the NCBP and is made up of 15 at-large members (each serving a three-year term) and five officers. Terms are staggered so that five members rotate off the council each year. Each council member will sit on and participate in the work of one to three NCBP committees. During the second or third year of his/her term, a council member may be appointed as a committee chair. Chair responsibilities include planning agendas, steering the committee toward its objectives, and submitting written reports of the committee's activities.

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Dates and Deadlines

Jackrabbit Bar Conference
June 2-4, 2011
Sun Valley, ID
Email Diane Minnich
dminnich@isb.idaho.gov

NCBP Annual Meeting
August 4-6, 2011
Toronto, ON, Canada
Fairmont Royal York Hotel
Email: Chrishelle.Thomas@
americanbar.org

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:

Kimberly Vann
ABA Division for Bar Services
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654-7598
(312) 988-5364
fax: (312) 988-5492
E-mail: Kimberly.Vann@
americanbar.org

Visit the NCBP Website at
www.ncbp.org!

Become an NCBP fan
on Facebook.



**MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER FOR THE
NCBP 2011 ANNUAL MEETING IN TORONTO!
GO TO WWW.AMBAR.ORG/ANNUAL.**



SEE PAGE 4 FOR PROGRAM OVERVIEW.

President's Message

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all civilized nations continue during these troubling times. Lawyers must find time to move beyond the call to produce more billable hours and rather engage in public service and bar activities which are worthwhile and meaningful – and which help shape a positive image of our profession.

I believe that it is one of the highest callings of our profession to serve as bar leaders as it is those individuals who give their precious time and resources to promoting the legal profession, the judiciary, fellow lawyers and the community at large. NCBP supports the profession by developing high quality programming for its midyear and annual conferences that ensures bar leaders remain on the cutting edge of issues of concern to their members.

I invite all members and those considering membership to convene at the NCBP Annual Meeting in Toronto, August 4-6 and enjoy important and fun social interaction as well as engage in substantive sessions and information sharing. This year, the headquarters hotel will be the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Register now at www.ambar.org/annual.

Also, next month, the American Board of Trial Advocates (“ABOTA”) will conduct its Fourth National Jury Summit in Chicago on June 23 and 24. For registration information on this program which will focus on reforms to bring the jury trial into the 21st Century, please visit www.abota.org.

Annual Meeting Scholarships Available for Bar Leaders of Color

In support of its commitment to diversity, the NCBP will provide registration fee waivers to the president or president-elect of bar associations for lawyers of color for attendance at the upcoming annual meeting in Toronto. Travel and lodging expenses are not covered by the scholarships. While the fee waivers are available to leaders from such bars nationwide, bar leaders in or near Toronto and upstate New York are particularly encouraged to apply since they will incur limited travel and lodging expenses to attend the meetings.

Over the years, several state bars have covered the travel expenses for leaders of such bars in cooperation with NCBP's fellowship program, among them the Minnesota State Bar Association, the Rhode Island Bar Association and the Maryland State Bar Association.

Other state and metropolitan bars are encouraged to consider this idea. If you are interested or know of a bar leader who may be interested in a scholarship to attend an upcoming NCBP meeting, please contact Chrishelle Thomas via e-mail: at Chrishelle.Thomas@americanbar.org.



Alison L. Asti



Gloria Sturman

Beyond Bar Presidency: Two Past Presidents Elected Judges

Last November, Alison L. Asti, past president of the Maryland State Bar Association, and Gloria Sturman, past president of the State Bar of Nevada, were elected as judges in their respective states. Following a path that many past presidents take, Asti and Sturman were called to continued public service as members of the bench, Asti as 5th Judicial Circuit Associate Judge in Anne Arundel County and Sturman as a judge on the 8th District Court of Nevada, Department 26.

In addition to service as the president of the Maryland State Bar Association, Asti was president of the Bar Association of Baltimore City as well as the Metropolitan Bar Caucus. Prior to becoming a judge, Asti was a member of The McCammon Group, Ltd., a provider of alternative dispute resolution services for Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia. Sturman is a past president of the Clark County Bar. Before becoming a judge, Sturman was a partner and member of the advocacy and litigation practice group of Buckley King LPA, where her practice included insurance defense, employment discrimination, civil rights and professional liability. Her previous judicial experience includes serving as a short trial judge pro tem and justice of the peace pro tem. Both Asti and Sturman served on the NCBP executive council where they worked with other members to produce programming to enhance the leadership experience and productivity of bar officers.

Lawyers Giving Back

Starting with its March issue, the *ABA Journal* has devoted a special section showcasing lawyers' public service efforts. Titled "Lawyers Giving Back," the section is a four-page photo spread designed to spotlight the profession's commitment to pro bono service and recognize the many lawyers who devote their time, energy and expertise to help individuals and non-profit organizations in their communities.

Bar leaders are encouraged to email Julie Brown "action" photographs of their associations serving the communities through *pro bono* and other public service activities so they can be considered for future issues. Those submitting photos should include their name, the lawyers photographed, their employers, a short description of the service, including where it took place, and a photo credit. Photo files should be at least 3 megabytes (MB) in size and at least 4x6 at 300 dpi. Photos and descriptions should be sent to Brown at abanews@americanbar.org.

NCBP Nominations

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Secretary

Nomination to the office of secretary is the first step toward serving as president of the NCBP. The secretary subsequently serves as treasurer, president-elect, president and immediate past president. Officers' duties are similar to those listed above under Executive Council and also include the activities generally attendant with the respective office. Friday, June 17, 2011 is the deadline for letters of interest, nomination letters and resumes. Letters of recommendation may be submitted separately and must be received on or before Friday, July 8. Criteria, responsibilities and the nomination process are posted on www.ncbp.org. For questions, please contact Pamela Robinson at pamela.robinson@americanbar.org or 312/988-5345.

In Memoriam: Lou Duffy, Retired Martindale-Hubbell Executive

Lou Duffy, a longtime friend and supporter of NCBP, recently passed away at his home in Annandale, New Jersey. He began his career at Martindale-Hubbell as a field sales representative in 1956 and moved up through the ranks of the company. He was the national sales manager until becoming vice president of sales in 1978. In 1980, Duffy was promoted to senior vice president of sales and marketing, and soon thereafter he was appointed as the Martindale-Hubbell delegate to the American Bar Association (ABA). In 1990, when Martindale-Hubbell was acquired by Reed International, he relocated to England to establish the company's first international headquarters.

After retiring in 1998, Duffy assumed a full-time role as an international consultant, working on special assignments while continuing to be the company's delegate to the ABA and other international bar associations worldwide. In 2006, LexisNexis recognized Duffy's lifelong interest in developing young lawyers across the world by establishing a LexisNexis/IBA scholarship in his name for lawyers from developing countries to study international law. He was also the first non-lawyer ever to be honored by the ABA for his ongoing efforts to enhance human rights and world peace, and he is one of the few non-lawyers to have ever attended a meeting of the ABA House of Delegates. A supporter of work of bar associations, Duffy spearheaded Martindale's sponsorship of NCBP events for many years.

NCBP President James P. Nolan said, "Lou was a wonderful family man, including his extended NCBP and ABA family and a friend to so many in our profession. He always had a smile on his face and a good and generous heart. He was indeed an extremely special individual who wanted to make everyone with whom he came in contact feel special. We are all better for having known and been associated with Lou. He will definitely be missed."



SAVE THE DATE
NCBP 2012 MIDYEAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2-4, NEW ORLEANS MARRIOTT
PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!





NCBP 2011 Annual Meeting

August 4-6, Toronto



Thursday, August 4

7:00 am - 5:30 pm
Joint Registration

7:00 am - 12:00 pm
NCBP Committee Meetings

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
NCBP Executive Council Meeting

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Metro Bar Caucus (MBC)
Executive Committee Meeting

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
MBC Programming

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
ABA Legislative and Governmental
Advocacy Update—Program and
Reception

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
MBC Welcome Reception

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
NCBP Executive Council, Council Alumni
and NCBP Past Presidents Dinner
(Location TBD)

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
MBC Executive Committee Dinner
(Location TBD)

Friday, August 5

6:45 am - 5:00 pm
Joint Registration

7:45 am - 9:00 am
NCBP Breakfast and Welcome

Early Registration Deadline:
May 31, 2011

Final Registration Deadline:
July 8, 2011

Friday, August 5 (cont.)

9:00 am - 9:40 am
Plenary Session: How the Public Finds
Lawyers—Panel Presentation

9:40 am - 10:50 am
Roundtable Discussions and Reports

10:50 am - 11:15 am
NCBP Sponsor Appreciation
and Networking Break

11:25 am - 12:25 pm
Joint Concurrent Workshops—Topics
include funding legal services and
member services, plus programming
for metro bars and foundations

12:25 pm - 1:50 pm
NCBP/NABE/NCBF
Joint Awards Luncheon

1:50 pm - 2:10 pm
NCBP Sponsor Appreciation
and Networking Break

2:20 pm - 3:20 pm
Joint Concurrent Workshops—Topics
include law practice regulation and
delivery of legal services, court funding
crisis and bar association world justice
initiatives

3:20 pm - 4:30 pm
MBC Business Meeting and
Plenary Session

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
NCBP Forum on Racial and
Ethnic Diversity

Time and Location TBD
NCBP/NABE/NCBF Joint Reception

Saturday, August 6

7:00 am - Noon
Joint Registration

8:00 am - 9:00 am
NCBP Breakfast Roundtables
and Sponsor Forum

8:00 am - 9:15 am
Metro Bar Caucus (MBC)
Executive Committee Meeting

9:15 am - 11:45 am
NCBP Plenary Session

9:15 am - 9:45 am
Short Talks on Important Issues

9:45 am - 10:00 am
ABA President-elect Speaks

10:00 am - 10:10 am
NCBP Nominating Committee Report

10:10 am - 10:30 am
Hot Tips on Hot Topics

10:30 am - 11:45 am
Common Perspectives/Challenges
in Growing Diversity

11:45 am
Final Remarks and Adjourn

All events at the Fairmont Royal York unless otherwise indicated. More detailed program, speaker and event information will be posted over the next several weeks on www.ncbp.org. Times are subject to change. Register online at www.ambar.org/annual. Faxable NABE/NCBP/NCBF form will be available soon at www.ambar.org/annual. Email registration questions to: NABE-NCBP-NCBFregistration@americanbar.org.



ATTENTION!!!

A valid passport is required for entry into Canada and re-entry into the United States. To renew or activate your passport, please visit <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>.