

**NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING  
JUNE 21, 2008  
THE OTESAGA, COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK**

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PRESENT: Abernethy; Adler; Alden; Amoruso; Asarch; Bailey; Baynes; Berke-Weiss; Block; Bonina; Borsody; Bracken; Brown-Spitzmueller; Brown, T.; Burke, J.; Burke, P.; Burns, S.; Buzard; Cahn; Casserly; Chase; Coffey; Cohen, C.; Cohen, D; Convissar; Crespo; Cummings; Cusano; Dietz; Dohn; Doyle; Draper; Edmunds; Fennell; Fernandez; Finerty; Fishberg; Fisher; Franchina; Frank; Freedman; Getnick; Gigliotti; Gingold; Goldberg; Goldenberg; Golinski; Good; Gordon Oliver; Gorgos; Gould; Gouz; Greeley; Greenthal; Gross; Gutekunst; Gutierrez; Haig; Harren; Hassett; Hayes; Hernandez; Higgins, J.; Higgins, P.; Hollyer; Howe; James D.; James S.; Kamins; Kanter; Kennedy; Kiernan; Kobak; Kougasian; Krane; Kretser; Kurland; Lamantia; Larose; Lashley; Lau-Kee; Lawrence; Leber; Leo; Lesk; Levin; Levy; Lewis; Liebman; Lindenauer; Madigan; Manias; Makofsky; Markhoff; Martin; Marwell; Masley; May; Meislahn; Meyer; Mihalick; Miklitsch; Millett; Miranda; Mitchell; Morgan; Morril; Moy; Nachimson; Netter; Nizin; O'Donnell; O'Neill; Ostertag; Peterson; Porcellio; Potter; Privitera; Prowda; Pruzansky; Reed; Richardson; Rider; Roberts; Robinson; Rodriguez; Rosenthal; Rosiny; Rothstein; Salkin; Sands; Schraver; Sen; Sheehan; Sherwin; Sigmond; Silkenat; Smith, G.; Smith, T.; Spelfogel; Spiro; Standard; Stanislaus-Fung; Steinberg; Sterrett; Sunshine, J.; Sunshine, N.; Szochet; Tennant; Terranova; Tesser; Tharp; Thornhill; Tyler; Vigdor; Virkler; Vitacco; Wachtler; Walsh; Weinberger; Welby; Wilson; Witmer; Yavinsky; Young; Younger; Zulack.

Mr. Getnick presided over the meeting as Chair of the House.

1. Call to order and introduction of new members. After calling the meeting to order, Mr. Getnick welcomed the new members of the House.
2. Approval of minutes of April 5, 2008, meeting. A motion was unanimously adopted accepting the minutes as previously distributed.
3. Report of the Treasurer. Mr. James, Treasurer, reported that that the Association had received an unqualified opinion from the Association's auditors, UHY, LLP, for the 2007 audited annual report as of December 31, 2007. With respect to the current year through May 31, 2008, he reported that total revenue is \$18 million, an increase of \$1.2 million from the previous year, and total expense is \$9.9 million, a decrease of \$281,000 from this point in 2007. Membership dues revenue had increased \$575,000 over this point in 2007, while CLE revenue had increased by \$461,000. Mr. James then provided a review of major expense changes, a four-year comparison of CLE revenue and expense, and membership revenue. The report was received with thanks.
4. Presentation of Root-Stimson Award. Paul Michael Hassett, chair of the Root-Stimson subcommittee of the Committee on Annual Award, reported that the Root-Stimson Award honors members of the profession for outstanding community service. President

Leber and Mr. Hassett presented the award to Charles C. Russo of Hauppauge. A member of the firm of Russo, Karl, Widmaier & Cordano PLLC, he was honored for his efforts as the founder of Christmas Magic, as well as his work as Chairman of the Board at Hope House Ministries and several other charitable organizations.

5. Report and recommendations of Committee on Membership. Claire M. Gutekunst, chair of the committee, outlined the committee's proposal for the addition of two seats to the House of Delegates for non-resident members, to be appointed by the President. She noted that this recommendation reflects the growth of the number of non-resident members and their importance to the Association. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the committee's recommendation. Ms. Gutekunst also reported on the progress of the President's Membership Challenge, announced the "Membership Challenge Honor Roll," and announced the winners of the House membership recruitment contest. She encouraged members of the House to continue their membership recruitment efforts. The report was received with thanks.
6. Report and recommendations of Committee on Professional Discipline. Sarah Diane McShea, co-chair of the committee, and committee member Peter V. Coffey outlined a proposed amendment to DR 9-102 of the Code of Professional Responsibility to provide for a successor signatory on the escrow account of an attorney who has disappeared, abandoned his or her law practice, becomes permanently or temporarily incapacitated, or has been suspended or disbarred. After discussion, a motion was adopted to approve the proposed amendment for transmittal to the Appellate Division for the court's consideration.
7. Report of Special Committee on Senior Lawyers. Justin L. Vigdor, chair of the committee, updated the House with respect to the committee's activities in considering programs and services for senior lawyers. He reviewed a survey conducted by the committee with respect to the viewpoints of senior lawyers regarding retirement; the planning and preparation for retirement that senior lawyers have undertaken or are planning to undertake; the viewpoints of senior lawyers with respect to community service and pro bono; the reaction of senior lawyers to the idea of a section dedicated to the needs of senior lawyers; and the services that senior lawyers would most desire from a section. He reported that the committee would present a proposal for a Senior Lawyer Section for consideration at the November meetings. The report was received with thanks.
8. Installation of President. Ms. Leber was formally installed as President. The oath of office was administered by the Hon. Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the State of New York, who delivered brief remarks.
9. Report of President. Ms. Leber announced that the theme for her term as President would be "Helping Lawyers, Helping Clients." She reviewed some of the Association's past initiatives and highlighted some of the initiatives she planned for the coming year, including membership; strategic financial planning; an e-mail outreach to lawyers to elicit thoughts as to the challenges they face; and section and committee projects. Ms.

Leber referred the delegates to the written President's Report that had been distributed, a copy of which is appended to these minutes, for a detailed presentation regarding issues and matters of interest.

10. Report and recommendations of Committee on Civil Rights. Fernando A. Bohorquez, Jr., chair of the Committee on Civil Rights, together with associate Patrick Campbell, reviewed the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Boumediene v. Bush*, noting that the committee requested that Association action on the committee's recommendations be deferred in order to provide the committee with time to review the decision and consider the following issues: (a) the standards applicable to habeas proceedings that will follow *Boumediene*; (b) the rights of detainees in other extra-territorial locations under the de facto control of the United States; and (c) the rights that must be afforded to detainees in the proceedings against them. After discussion, a motion to table consideration of the report failed for lack of a second, following which a motion was adopted to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the writ of habeas corpus plays a time-honored role as an indispensable guardian against arbitrary and unlawful executive detention;

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court recently held in *Boumediene v. Bush* that the Suspension Clause has full effect at the Guantanamo Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and aliens designated as "enemy combatants" and detained at Guantanamo have the constitutional privilege of habeas corpus to challenge the legality of their detention;

WHEREAS, *Boumediene* further held that the Combatant Status Review Tribunal's designation of Guantanamo detainees as "enemy combatants" and the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005's procedures for review of that designation are not an adequate and effective substitute for habeas corpus;

WHEREAS, *Boumediene* held that the habeas-stripping provisions of Section 7 of the Military Commissions Act of 2006 operate as an unconstitutional suspension of the writ;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association supports the *Boumediene* decision and the principles underlying that decision; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association accepts, with thanks, the Report of the Committee on Civil Rights entitled "Executive Detention, Habeas Corpus and the Military Commissions Act of 2006," as amended, which addresses important issues including the applicability of habeas corpus to detainees in Guantanamo and other extra-territorial detention centers under the de facto control of the United States; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in light of the *Boumediene* decision issued after submission of the Report by the Committee, the New York State Bar Association defers adopting the recommendations in the Report; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association recognizes and adopts the Report's principle that Guantanamo detainees are entitled to certain fundamental due process protections discussed in the report; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association recognizes that the *Boumediene* decision did not determine the following important issues:

- a) The standards applicable to the habeas proceedings concerning Guantanamo detainees that will follow the *Boumediene* decision;
- b) The specific rights that must be afforded to the Guantanamo detainees in the proceedings against them; and
- c) The specific rights of non-citizens detained as "enemy combatants" in other extra-territorial locations under the de facto control of the United States; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association directs the Committee on Civil Rights to further consider the issues enumerated above and to prepare a revised report and recommendations as soon as possible; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the New York State Bar Association authorizes the Executive Committee to adopt the Committee on Civil Rights' revised report and recommendations consistent with the *Boumediene* decision.

Justices Asarch and Sunshine and Judge Gordon Oliver abstained from participating in the discussion and vote with respect to this matter.

- 11. Report and recommendations of Commercial and Federal Litigation Section. Carrie H. Cohen, immediate past chair of the Section, and James M. Bergin, chair of the Section's Committee on Civil Practice Law and Rules, outlined the section's report recommending amendments to CPLR article 31 with respect to electronic discovery. They noted that the current CPLR provisions refer to "documents" and do not resolve issues relating to materials stored in electronic form; the proposed amendments would incorporate some of the recent changes to Federal rules governing discovery into the CPLR. After discussion, a motion to amend the proposal by deleting the sanctions provision was defeated, as was a motion to table consideration of the report to the November 2008 meeting. A motion was then adopted to approve the report and recommendations as proposed.
- 12. Memorial to Nicholas S. Priore. Mr. Getnick presented a memorial to Nicholas S. Priore, elected delegate from the Fifth Judicial District, who passed away in December 2007. A

moment of silence was observed out of respect for Mr. Priore's memory and his contributions to the Association and the legal profession.

13. Report of The New York Bar Foundation. M. Catherine Richardson, Vice President and Chair of the Fellows of The Foundation, presented an informational report on recent developments with respect to The Foundation, including the presentation of a lifetime achievement award to Robert MacCrate and restricted donations made to The Foundation from the Intellectual Property Law and Business Law Sections and a gift in memory of Anne B. Keenan from USI/Bertholon-Rowland. The report was received with thanks.
14. Administrative items. Mr. Getnick reported on the following:
  - a. Reappointment of special committees. Special committees are appointed initially for a fixed period of time not to exceed three years and, when that time has elapsed, House approval is required to extend the term of such committees. A motion was adopted unanimously to extend the terms of the following special committees for an additional year:
    1. Special Committee on Animals and the Law
    2. Special Committee on Court Structure and Judicial Selection
    3. Special Committee on Procedures for Judicial Discipline
    4. Special Committee to Ensure Quality of Mandated Representation
    5. Special Committee to Review the Code of Judicial Conduct
    6. Special Committee on Student Loan Assistance for the Public Interest
    7. Task Force on Electronic Communications
    8. Special Committee on Unlawful Practice of Law
    9. Special Committee on Cross Border Legal Practice
    10. Special Committee on Sarbanes-Oxley Issues
    11. Special Committee to Study the Bar Exam and Other Means of Measuring Lawyer Competency
  - b. Discharge of special committees. The Special Committees on Age Discrimination in the Profession, Attorney-Client Privilege, Balanced Lives in the Law, Collateral Consequences of Criminal Proceedings, Cyberspace Law, Examine Press Access Issues at the Southern District, Funding for Civil Legal Services, Town and Village Courts and Youth Outreach, as well as the Task Forces on Eminent Domain, Gender Equity, and Increasing Diversity in the Judiciary have been discharged with the concurrence of their respective chairs. Where appropriate, the work will be continued by existing committees and sections.
  - c. Discharge of standing committees. Pursuant to the Bylaws, House approval is required for the discharge of standing committees. A motion was adopted unanimously by voice vote to approve the discharge of the Committee on Federal Constitution and Legislation and Committee on Judicial Campaign Conduct,

which had been recommended for discharge with the consent of their respective chairs.

- d. Resolution of Special Committee on Animals and the Law. Mr. Getnick read the following resolution submitted by the committee, which the committee had requested him to convey to the House:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Special Committee on Animals and the Law, established under the extraordinary leadership of Lorraine Power Tharp, President of the New York State Bar Association from 2002 to 2003, does hereby acknowledge, with deepest gratitude, Ms. Tharp's vision in recognizing not only the role that animals play in our society in general but also their importance specifically to New Yorkers in all walks of life. Through her foresight in effecting the formation of this Committee, Lorraine Power Tharp has enabled members of this Association to demonstrate their caring and commitment, as she has demonstrated hers, to fostering a society that is humane not only to animals but also to the people who value them.

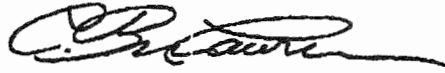
15. New Business.

- a. Ms. Leber announced that the Association would sponsor a reception at Gracie Mansion in New York City on August 11, 2008, in connection with the ABA Annual Meeting.
- b. Hon. George Bundy Smith, chair of the Special Committee on the Civil Rights Agenda, provided an update on his committee's work in reviewing comments that had been submitted with respect to the committee's report and advised that the committee was in the process of amending its report to address the comments and to address Upstate issues more broadly. He thanked those who had submitted comments.
- c. Simeon Baum, chair of the Dispute Resolution Section, announced that the section was offering free membership for the remainder of 2008 and encouraged members to join the section.
- d. Ms. Leber introduced the team captains for the softball game to be played later in the afternoon at the Clark Sports Center: Mr. Bracken and Ms. Richardson would captain one team with Ms. Leber, while the captains for the other team would be Mr. Witmer and Ms. Madigan.

14. Date and place of next meeting. Mr. Getnick announced that the next meeting of the House of Delegates would take place on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at the Bar Center in Albany.

15. Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the House of Delegates, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Bruce Lawrence", written in a cursive style.

C. Bruce Lawrence  
Secretary



# NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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June 21, 2008

**To: Members of the House of Delegates**

Consistent with the approach taken for prior House meetings, I am providing you with this written President's report to read at your convenience and to distribute to others as you think appropriate. This allows me to note key items during my brief remarks at the meeting while freeing as much time as possible for us to address the substantive reports on our agenda.

You should find the following topics of interest as well as representative of the many critical issues with which the Association is involved.

## Committee Appointments

I have completed the process of reviewing committee and committee chairs for the coming year. As of this date, we have 25 Sections and 58 Committees. In accordance with State Bar policy, we rotate seats on Committees and Chairs of Committees every three years (with the exception of those few where continuity is key – i.e., the Committee on Professional Ethics). As our Diversity Policy also mandates, I added a substantial number of diverse candidates to these positions based upon age, gender and race. I would especially like to thank Miriam Netter and her Special Committee on Committees for their efforts and invaluable comments, which have enabled us to operate more effectively and to discharge or consolidate certain Committees, and where appropriate, assigned their missions to other committees for continued work.

## New Initiatives

(a) On June 1, 2008, I appointed a **Task Force on Wrongful Convictions** to study the systemic, procedural and statutory causes that contribute to wrongful convictions in New York and propose solutions. The Task Force Chair is Barry Kamins. There has been prolific media coverage of the mission and need for the Task Force thus far. (A list of those articles, and others of interest, is attached to this letter). In addition, members of the State Legislature have invited us to testify at upcoming hearings about the purpose and goals of our work that are anticipated to occur in July.

(b) Steve Younger is Chairing the **Special Committee on Federal Legislation**, whose mission it is to develop an effective, coordinated plan for the Association for our legislative outreach on a federal level. This Committee will focus our efforts not only on matters that come before the House of Delegates, but also in our Sections and Committees in order to establish solid working relationships with key



Congressional members and their staff and a priority list similar to the one we have for State legislative initiatives. This past year as you know, Kate Madigan and I worked more closely with the City Bar President Barry Kamins and New York County Lawyers' Association's Catherine Christian in order to lobby jointly on issues of common interest. I plan to continue this successful initiative with Ann Lesk, President of NYCLA, and President Patricia Hynes and General Counsel Alan Rothstein of the City Bar. If any county bar associations have an interest in joining us, kindly send me an email, [www.leberb@arentfox.com](mailto:www.leberb@arentfox.com).

(c) I have appointed former State Bar President Robert Ostertag to Chair a **Committee on Small and Solo Firms** in order to assess prior reports and address ongoing concerns that our Association and its members have about the practice of law in today's economy. Consistent with my theme for the upcoming year, "Helping Lawyers, Helping Clients", this Special Committee will hone in on ways to make the practice of law more efficient in the office and in the courthouse for the 60% segment of our membership who work in the small firm environment. We also added as one of our legislative priorities this past year the need of review proposed legislation and court rules in order to ensure that they consider the effect on small and solo firms; I know Bob will also be reviewing that aspect of our Association's work in the report as well.

(d) As one of her closing acts as President, Kate Madigan appointed a **Special Committee on LGBT People and the Law** in May, to promote equality in the legal profession for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-gendered attorneys and litigants. Chair of the Committee is Michelle Kahn. Given the Governor's latest (May 18) directive to state agencies concerning the recognition of foreign same-sex marriages and the resulting Article 78 complaint just filed last week by members of the State Legislature against the Governor, I am hopeful that the Special Committee will be addressing these, among other issues for the Association and its members.

(e) In an effort to contain costs and Association efficiencies, in lieu of establishing additional Committees, I have also asked several of our Sections to spearhead specific projects during my term as president. Thus, the **Commercial and Federal Litigation Section** together with a broad cross-section of practitioners, will review conditions of New York State Courthouses and recommend specific ways to make them more user-friendly for clients, lawyers and judges.

(f) An interdisciplinary committee consisting of **The Intellectual Property, Health and Business Law Sections**, working jointly, will focus on our privacy rights as lawyers, and for our clients with respect to health, financial and personal information on the Internet. I am certain that you may have seen the NPR interview with a lawyer defending a Guantanamo Bay prisoner who discovered that not only his telephone but also his computer had been bugged. This is especially cause for concern for lawyers and our clients, in the wake of the United States Supreme Court decision last week in *Boumediene v. Bush*, that confirmed the privilege of *habeas corpus* – the right to challenge detention before a neutral judge – one the oldest and one of the most important protections against the arbitrary and unchecked exercise of power

(g) I have asked the **Environmental Law Section** to update its 1994 Report on Climate Change in New York and to create a blueprint for what New Yorkers can do to address the issue: In this election year, it

is especially important for lawyers to raise the consciousness and the level of debate on this pressing problem for us and for generations to come.

#### Legislative Priorities

As of this writing, we anticipate that the 2008 state legislative session will end on June 23. These are the highlights of the Association's Legislative Priorities thus far:

- Salary Reform for New York State Judges: Kate and I committed a tremendous amount of time and effort in carrying the message to the Governor and the Legislature this year in order to impress upon them the vital importance of a properly supported judiciary and necessary increases in judges' salaries. As you all know, there has been no increase in almost 10 years. Although the Governor and the Legislative leaders publicly support judicial salary reform, they have not been able to agree and resolve the issue. I spoke at Chief Judge Kaye's news conference hosted at the Bar Center in May, just prior to the filing of the Chief Judge's lawsuit against those leaders. Most recently, New York Supreme Court Justice Edward Lehner ruled in favor of three justices who had previously filed suit challenging the past practice of joining salary increases to legislative salary increases as an unconstitutional violation of the separation of powers doctrine. It remains to be seen the extent to which that decision prompts the Legislature to act in light of the automatic stay pending appeal, which appeal we anticipate.
- Court Reform: Reorganization of New York's overly complex and costly court system and the means of electing judges are critical to promoting public trust and confidence in our state's court system. I have asked Robert Witmer, who chairs the Special Committee on Court Structure and Judicial Selection, to review the current climate and report on ways to implement needed reforms.
- Access to Justice: Our priority in this area embraces civil justice for low-income consumers and support for the establishment of an Independent Indigent Defense Commission, broad powers to adopt standards, evaluate existing programs and service providers, and generally supervise the operation of New York's public defense system in criminal cases. With respect to funding civil legal services, the Legislature responded to our calls for restoration of funding for core civil legal services programs, originally excluded from the budget. With respect to indigent defense, the Association continued its efforts during the final weeks of the legislative session to emphasize the need for an independent commission to address the on-going crisis regarding the delivery of defense services as guaranteed under the federal and state constitutions. As outgoing Co-Chair with Magistrate Judge George Lowe of the Northern District of New York on the President's Committee on Access to Justice, we also advocated for and appeared before the judges of the Eastern District of New York, Southern District of New York and the Commercial Division Justices of New York since January in order to work with the courts in implementing the Report on *Cy Pres* as a means of additional funding for civil legal services providers. Joining us in making the presentations were Edward Labaton, Robert Haig, Seymour James and Steven Krane. We will continue to seek to implement the report in conjunction with the State Bar Foundation. Susan Lindenauer, who serves as an ex officio member of the Foundation Board, will be helping us. We also sent out letters to all of the Claims Administrators around

the United States in order to ascertain the extent to which there remain residual funds in settled class actions that could form the basis for *cy pres* treatment. We are encouraged to see that there remain well over a quarter of a million dollars in settled cases that were pending in New York State. Michael Getnick, my successor on the President's Access to Justice Committee and Judge Lowe remain committed to seeing this important project through conclusion.

- Equal Rights for Same-Sex Couples: Based on the House position adopted in April 2005, we continued to press for the enactment of legislation that would give same-sex couples the ability to obtain the comprehensive set of rights and responsibilities that opposite-sex couples enjoy – whether through domestic partnership registry, civil unions, or an amendment to the statutory definition of marriage. Although the Governor's program to amend the Domestic Relations Law to provide same-sex couples the same opportunity as opposite-sex couples to enter civil marriages did not come to a vote in 2008, the State Bar continued to support such efforts in order to provide equal treatment for same-sex couples. We applauded Governor Paterson's progressive and courageous directive that requires state agencies to enact appropriate rules and regulations that would honor same-sex marriages performed in other states and countries and we urged the Legislature and the Governor to take all appropriate steps to enact long overdue laws this session to accomplish the legal inequities suffered by same-sex couples in New York.
- The Compact for Long-Term Care: The Compact would provide a fair and equitable way to finance long-term care for the elderly and the disable in New York. It proposes increasing the use of private funds for long-term care while maintaining the safety net that Medicaid was intended to provide. The elderly and disabled would be expected to pay a fair share of their long-term care costs after which the government would provide a financial subsidy for additional long-term care services. This concept continues to attract a great deal of support in the Legislature. I will continue to work with our Compact Working Group and the Executive Branch in order to seek its implementation and address certain policy and budget issues that have been raised.
- Support for the Legal Profession: Our State Bar has a long tradition of supporting proposals that benefit the legal profession as a whole. Legislative proposals that benefit the profession, assist in protecting citizens' rights, and facilitate the lawyer's role in enhancing our justice system, as well as opposing measures that would have a detrimental impact upon us and our clients remain at the forefront of our priorities. The current debate over the Executive Budget gave us an opportunity to oppose two such detrimental proposals. One proposal would have provided for the gubernatorial appointment of the (IOLA) Executive Director. The Association strongly opposed that proposal, because it would have provided the Governor with unwarranted political interference with the operations of the IOLA Fund. Another equally flawed proposal would have diverted as much as \$ 25 million of IOLA Funds away from its primary mission and the essential programs providing direct civil legal services to the poor.

#### Other Noteworthy Items of Mention

2008 President's Pro Bono Service Awards – The awards were presented on May 2, 2008 in Albany, honoring lawyers 10 of the state's 12 judicial districts, a young lawyer, a senior lawyer, a large firm, a

small/mid-size firm, a law student and a law student group. Kate Madigan, Judge George Lowe and I presented the awards.

ABA Day in Washington, DC – Together with Kate Madigan and representatives from the New York City Bar and the New York County Lawyers' Association, I met with Senate and Congressional leaders on issues of interest to New York lawyers including Funding for Civil Legal Services, the rights of Guantanamo prisoners and the attorney-client privilege.

Proposed Rules of Professional Conduct – An interdepartmental committee has been appointed by the Appellate Division to review the Rules of Professional Conduct proposed by our Association and make recommendations to the court concerning their adoption. We will be following the progress.

Law, Youth and Citizenship – In May, the program sponsored the Mock Trial finals in Albany. The competition was won by East Islip High School; Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo served as the judge presiding at the trial.

It is a privilege and honor to serve the State Bar. I look forward to working with you all in what I know will be a productive year. Have a wonderful Summer.

Sincerely,



Bernice K. Leber  
President