



March 8, 2010

UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Litigation Section provides this brief update on the activities of the Section. This report addresses:

- Volunteers in Court
- Recent CLE events,
- Upcoming CLE events,
- Web site update, and
- Upcoming election of Section officers.

Volunteers in Court The Litigation Section is spearheading a pilot program that solicits volunteers to assist the courts. This program is designed to provide help for the overburdened courts and enable underemployed attorneys to improve their professional skills. Attorneys who are not actively engaged in the practice of the law can volunteer to assist judges, serve in the self-help centers in the courthouses, or the help in administration of the judiciary. Additional information and application forms can be found at <http://www.utahbar.org/courtvolunteers/>.

Recent CLE Events Recent seminars have included:

- Fall Forum The Section conducted three popular panels on evidence, litigation reform, and expert witnesses.
- Legal Writing Speakers at the December quarterly luncheon gave tips to a packed audience on improving legal writing.

Upcoming CLE Events Mark these dates on your calendars:

- Judging Utah's Judges The next installment of our free quarterly luncheons will be March 25 at noon. Judges and practitioners will discuss Utah's judicial evaluation process.
- Spring Meeting The Section is preparing two presentations for the Bar's Spring Meeting in St. George on March 18-20 on obtaining medical records in litigation and ethical issues that arise with *pro se* opponents.
- The State of Utah's Judiciary At a May 25 quarterly luncheon, Chief Justice Christine Durham will speak and take questions about Utah's judiciary.
- Annual Meeting Associate Justice Clarence Thomas will be the keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting. We are proud that two members of the Executive Committee are on the Annual Meeting planning committee, with one serving as co-chair. The Section will also present seminars entitled "Starting Smart and Finishing Strong," with a panel of distinguished litigators discussing opening statements and closing arguments.

Web Site Update Remember to bookmark our redesigned website: <http://litigation.utahbar.org> (not www). There you will find the latest information about CLE events sponsored by the Section and the popular Benchbook site. Advertising opportunities are available on the website for arbitrators, experts, court reporters, and other professionals that provide litigation assistance.

Section Operations Roundup:

- The Litigation Section approved donating \$250 to assist the courts in developing a new training video for jurors and \$250 for “And Justice for All.”
- Nicole Farrell was welcomed to the Executive Committee of the Section.
- The Law Student Relations Committee has launched its program with the law schools in which students will be matched with practitioners to write articles.

Annual Meeting, Election of Officers The annual meeting of the Section will be on Wednesday, June 9 at 8:00 at the Bar offices. New officers will be elected. All Section members are welcome to attend any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Wayne Klein, Litigation Section Chair