



June 22, 2007

Dear Litigation Section Members:

The Litigation Section had an active second quarter, sponsoring numerous CLEs and other events. This e-mail will summarize our activities this past quarter, list information about upcoming events, and provide useful links and services for our members.

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[1. Upcoming Events and CLEs](#)

* The Section's next **Quarterly Lunch** will be held on a date and location to be announced in Fall 2007. We will provide more information on the topic and the presenters as the time nears. As always, these quarterly luncheons are free of charge to section members who sign up in advance.

* The **2007 Annual Convention** will take place July 18-21, 2007 in Sun Valley, Idaho. The Litigation Section will be sponsoring several breakout sessions there. The Litigation Section liaison for the 2007 Annual Convention is Jonathan Hafen. To sign up for the Mid-Year Convention, visit www.utahbar.org/cle or call 297-7032 or 297-7036.



* Our second (and hopefully annual) **Utah County Golf & CLE** event will take place on September 14, 2007, at the Gladstan Golf Course in Payson. As in past similar events, there will be a CLE presentation in the morning (more information on the topic to follow), a lunch, and a round of golf on the interesting and deceptively difficult Gladstan Golf Course. The Section's liaison for this event is Dan Steele. To sign up, visit <http://www.utahbar.org/cle>.

* We have tentatively scheduled a **St. George Golf & CLE** event for October 2007. Watch for more information on the exact date, location, and topic.

* We have also tentatively scheduled an **Evening with the Third District Court** for October 30, 2007. Watch for more information as the date approaches.

For a calendar of events sponsored by the Litigation Section, visit:
<http://www.utahbar.org/sections/litigation/events.html>

2. Recent Activities April-June 2007

* The Section's **Latest Quarterly Luncheon** took place on May 30, 2007. We were honored to hear from Chief Justice Durham, as she made a presentation on "Hot Topics Facing Utah's Judiciary." The event was, as always, very well attended and was free of charge to Section members.



* The Section was proud to bring the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) back to Utah for their **NITA Trial Seminar**, which took place from May 16-19, 2007 here in Salt Lake City. This represented a special opportunity for Utah litigators to participate in a NITA trial advocacy seminar without having to travel out-of-state. The cost of attending a similar seminar out-of-state can be more than \$3000; this seminar was subsidized by the Litigation Section and is available to members for only \$1200. NITA brought eight top-notch out-of-state faculty, and we were very fortunate to also have the participation of eight top-notch local faculty members. We sponsored a similar seminar in 2005 which was a smashing success, and we believe this one was every bit as successful. Comments we received back from both the 48 students as well as from the faculty members were almost universally and overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic. We hope to be able to bring NITA back to Utah in the coming years.

3. Amendments to the Section Bylaws

As some of you may have noticed, the May 30 Quarterly Luncheon was also duly noticed as a special meeting of the Section's membership for discussion and approval of the Section's new bylaws. Those members of the Section present at the May 30 meeting unanimously approved the new bylaws, and so those new bylaws are finally effective and represent the operating bylaws of the Section. We have posted the new bylaws on the Section's website.
<http://www.utlitsec.org/>

4. Election of New Section Officers

After the new bylaws were approved on May 30, the Section's Executive Committee meeting of June 20 was duly noticed as the Section's Annual Meeting for the purpose of nominating and electing the Section's officers for the upcoming year, which begins on July 1. A number of Section members attended that meeting and we appreciate their interest and attendance. After the usual Section business was attended to, nominations for Section Chair-

Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer were taken, and elections were held. I am proud to announce that the following officers will serve you for the next year:

Chair:	Mike Petrogeorge
Chair-Elect:	Sammi Anderson
Secretary:	Ryan Frazier
Treasurer:	Dan Steele

5. Website Updates

We continue to build our Judges' Benchbook, which contains very useful information about state and federal judges. Currently, information regarding more than 60 state district court judges is available through the Benchbook, and we hope to boost this number closer to 70 soon. The Benchbook is continually being updated as new judges take the bench and agree to participate, and as we reach out to other judges who have not yet had the opportunity to participate; indeed, information regarding one additional judges was recently added to the site. The feedback we get from both judges and practitioners about the Benchbook has been uniformly and overwhelmingly positive, as both judges and lawyers consider the Benchbook a useful tool that makes court appearances run more smoothly. Additionally, we are pleased to announce that to make the Benchbook more accessible, the Bar has created a direct link on the Utah Bar's homepage. Visit www.utahbar.org and scroll down until you reach the link on the right-hand side.

For more information, please visit our website at www.utahbar.org/litigation/welcome or, even more conveniently, at www.utlitsec.org. It has been a pleasure serving you over the past year.

Enjoy the summertime,

Ryan M. Harris
Chair, Litigation Section