



October 4, 2007

Dear Litigation Section Members:

The Litigation Section had another active 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. New Executive Committee Members**

We have added three new members to the Section's Executive Committee: Keith A. Call of Snow, Christiansen & Martineau, Issac D. Paxman of Stepan Lewis & Paxman, LC and Patrick L. Tanner of Burbidge & White LLC. The Section is lucky to have the support of these talented individuals. If you are interested in joining the Executive Committee, or would like to nominate someone else to serve, please contact me at [mpetrogeorge@parsonsbehle.com](mailto:mpetrogeorge@parsonsbehle.com) or (801) 536-6899. For a full list of current Executive Committee members see the Section's website: [http://www.utahbar.org/sections/litigation/executive\\_committee.html](http://www.utahbar.org/sections/litigation/executive_committee.html)

### **2. Upcoming Events and CLEs**

\* The Section is co-sponsoring a CLE seminar on Wednesday, October 10, 2007 with the Appellate Section, the Criminal Law Section and the Constitutional Law Section. The seminar is entitled "Sentencing After Booker," and will be presented by Judge Michael McConnell from the Tenth United States Circuit Court of Appeals. To sign up, visit [www.utahbar.org/cle](http://www.utahbar.org/cle), or call (801) 297-7032 or (801) 297-7036.

\* The Section's third annual **Southern Utah Golf & CLE** will be held on October 19, 2007 at The Ledges Golf Course in St. George. This event is co-sponsored by the Southern Utah Bar Association ("SUBA"). The CLE portion of the event will begin at 8:00 a.m. David K. Isom, Greenberg Traurig (Denver, Colorado) will give a presentation on E-Discovery

qualifying for 3 hours of CLE/NLCLE credit. As in the past, this event will serve as the Section's **Quarterly Lunch** for fourth quarter 2007, and the CLE portion is free for Section/SUBA members who register in advance (\$25.00 for non-members). The golf tournament will begin at Noon. The entry fee for the golf tournament is \$45.00 for Section/SUBA members (\$85.00 for non-members). Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Dan Steele and Brian Pattison are chairing this event on behalf of the Section. To sign up, visit [www.utahbar.org/cle](http://www.utahbar.org/cle), or call (801) 297-7032 or (801) 297-7036.

\* The **2007 Fall Forum** will take place November 16, 2007 at the Salt Palace Convention Center. The Section is sponsoring a breakout session from 4:15-5:15 p.m entitled "Judges Panel: Tips and Pointers from the Bench," featuring Hon. Ronald H. Skanchy and Hon. Kate A. Toomey of the Third District Court. The Litigation Section liaison for the 2007 Fall Forum is George Burbidge. To sign up for the Fall Forum, visit [www.utahbar.org/cle](http://www.utahbar.org/cle), or call (801) 297-7032 or (801) 297-7036.



\* Our bi-annual and always "**Evening with the Third District Judges**" is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. The Hon. Denise Lindberg, Hon. Deno Himonas, and Hon. Mark Kouris are scheduled to appear. This event qualifies for 2 hours of CLE credit. Dan Steele and George Burbidge are chairing this event on behalf of the Section. To sign up, visit [www.utahbar.org/cle](http://www.utahbar.org/cle), or call (801) 297-7032 or (801) 297-7036.



\* Planning for the **2008 Spring Convention** is underway. The Section plans to sponsor breakout sessions at the Spring Convention as it has done in years past. The Section's liaison for the Spring Convention is Keith Call. Please contact Keith Call at [kcall@scmlaw.com](mailto:kcall@scmlaw.com) if you have any suggestions regarding possible breakout topics.

\* We are always looking for new CLE topics for our quarterly lunch program. Please email Jon Hafen, Quarterly Lunch Committee Chair, at [joh@pwlaw.com](mailto:joh@pwlaw.com) with any suggestions.

\* For a full calendar of events sponsored by the Section, please visit the website: <http://www.utahbar.org/sections/litigation/events.html>.

### **3. Recent Activities June-September 2007**

\* The **2007 Annual Convention** took place July 18-21, 2007 in Sun Valley, Idaho. The Section sponsored a very informative two-hour breakout session on expert discovery, featuring Magistrate Judge David O. Nuffer from the United States District Court for the District of Utah and Mark A. Glick from the North Harvard Group.



\* Our second annual **Utah County Golf & CLE** took place on September 14, 2007, at Talons Cove in Saratoga Springs. It was a great event featuring a presentation on insurance law issues by Lynn S. Davies from Richards, Brandt, Miller & Nelson.

\* The Section was a sponsor of the **Third Annual Tri-State CLE Seminar** hosted by the Federal Bar Association on September 14-15, 2007. Participants enjoyed two days of fantastic CLE presentations from federal judges and practitioners from Idaho, Utah and Wyoming, including a “Chief Judges Panel” with Chief Judge Tena Campbell from the United States District Court for the District of Utah, Chief Judge William F. Downes of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming, and Chief Judge B. Lynn Winmill of the United States District Court for the District of Idaho.

#### **4. New Section Bylaws**

The Section recently adopted new bylaws. A copy of the new bylaws can be found on the Section’s website: <http://www.utlitsec.org/>

#### **5. Law School Outreach**

Responding to the call of the Utah State Bar, and following the lead of past-chairs Elaina M. Maragakis and Ryan M. Harris, the Section is working with the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law and the Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School to increase law student awareness of and involvement in the Utah State Bar and the Section. As part of that initiative, the Section has invited Sarah Gubler (2L-BYU) and Latetia “Tish” Toombs (2L-U of U) to serve as *ex officio* members of the Executive Committee. One of the new programs we are launching is the Practitioner-Student Bar Journal program where interested law students will be paired up with interested practitioners to write articles on Utah law related topics for submission to and possible publication by the Utah Bar Journal. We will provide more information about this program at the Sections’ quarterly lunch in early 2008. We are also hoping to launch a law student CLE series where law students will present alone or with a practitioner on litigation related topics which the law student has recently researched and studied, such as for journal notes and comments, seminar papers, etc. If you are interested in participating in these or any other programs with the law school, please contact me at [mpetrogeorge@parsonsbehle.com](mailto:mpetrogeorge@parsonsbehle.com) or (801) 536-6800. You may also contact Sarah Gubler at [smg59@byulaw.net](mailto:smg59@byulaw.net) and Tish Toombs at [toombsl@law.utah.edu](mailto:toombsl@law.utah.edu).

#### **6. 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 and federal judges is available through the Benchbook, and we hope to boost this number 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. Recently added to the Benchbook is information from Hon. Royal Hansen and Hon. Kate A. Toomey. 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. To make the Benchbook more

accessible, the Bar has created a direct link on the Utah Bar's homepage. Visit [www.utahbar.org](http://www.utahbar.org) and simply scroll down until you reach the link on the lower right-hand side of the page.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.utahbar.org/litigation/welcome](http://www.utahbar.org/litigation/welcome) or, even more conveniently, at [www.utlitsec.org](http://www.utlitsec.org). It is my great pleasure to serve the Section, and I look forward to a successful and productive year.

Michael P. Petrogeorge  
Chair, Litigation Section