



HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Board of Directors of the HCBA

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

HCBA Offices

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. The minutes of September 11, 2007 were approved.

Rob Cook of Olsen, Thielan presented the independent auditor's report. He walked the Board through graphs, the management letter and description of the audit process and standards. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the auditor's report was unanimously adopted.

The Board then discussed the 2007-2008 CLE Marketing Plan. President Miller-Van Oort reviewed the history of HCBA CLE efforts. Ms. Berg emphasized salient portions of the plan, emphasizing the goals of the CLE department. Mr. Satter emphasized the value of the CLE One Card. Ms. Miller-Van Oort described a graph that reflects the fact that CLE absorbs significant overhead. Mr. Jensen emphasized marketing to a potential audience larger than the HCBA membership. Ms. Miller-Van Oort talked about the changing competitive environment for CLE, making HCBA a major player. She spoke, however, of the growing tendency of larger firms to provide internal CLE. Ms. Bartocci spoke of the Maslon experience and how law firms conform to CLE regulations. Ms. Sanberg suggested that HCBA explore cooperative joint programming with law firms. Mr. Jensen emphasized and Ms. Miller-Van Oort confirmed that attendees at CLE programs should understand that their attendance supports the HCBA's multi-faceted programs. The Board discussed professional development programs and contrasted them with substantive law programs; the objective is to have an appropriate mix, while emphasizing the uniqueness of HCBA programming. It was moved and seconded that the CLE Marketing Plan be accepted. Mr. Satter and Ms. Berg were duly complimented. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The Board then considered a proposed amendment to the conflict of interest statement, which addressed the issue that various organizations represented on the board may receive support from the HCBA, and that those representatives should be exempted from a conflict of interest. Mr. Engel opposed the motion, preferring that there be a case by case identification of a conflict. Ms. Sanberg espoused disqualifying a recipient of HCBA funds from voting on any budget item. Mr. Espel argued for the amendment, emphasizing the value of clarification. On the motion to amend the conflict of interest statement, the motion prevailed by majority vote. New conflict of interest statements will be distributed to the Board for execution.

Ms. Miller-Van Oort then raised the question of the Board's feelings about directors/officers/the president supporting judicial candidates by lending his/her name to a campaign or providing financial support. The Board agreed that no person should support a judicial candidate in the name of the HCBA, as distinguished from individual support of a candidate. At the same time, there is a risk that a candidate will take the liberty of attaching a descriptive label after the person's name, even if asked not to do so.



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Ms. Miller-Van Oort reported on the COMBA conference she attended with Ms. Vasaly and Mr. Buxbaum, and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. She reminded the Board of the efforts of the HCBA to educate members and the public on judicial election reform. Ms. Sanberg suggested including an appellate court judge on the panel

Mr. Buxbaum pointed out upcoming membership events and urged Board participation.

Ms. Miller-Van Oort encouraged the Board to complete evaluations of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Laurence R. Buxbaum
Executive Director