



**The Weekly Email Newsletter Of The Mississippi Bar**  
**September 10, 2007**

**MB Committee Day to Be Held Wednesday September 19 at Eagle Ridge Conference Center**

The Bar's 2006-07 year will kick-off with Committee Day at Eagle Ridge Conference Center on Wednesday September 19. Thirteen of the Bar's Committee's will meet on Committee Day. Committees scheduled to meet are: Bench Bar Liaison, Delivery of Legal Services, Disciplinary Procedures Study, Ethics, Fee Dispute, Lawyers & Judges Assistance, Military Assistance, Paralegals, Professionalism, Public Information, Technology, Unauthorized Practice of Law and Women in the Profession. If you are a member of one of these committees please make plans to attend. The morning sessions begin at 10:30 am and the afternoon sessions begin at 1:00 pm. Participants for both morning and afternoon meetings are invited to a complimentary buffet lunch at Noon. Questions regarding Committee Day should be directed to Kellie Freeman at 601-353-1703 or [kfreeman@msbar.org](mailto:kfreeman@msbar.org)

**Illinois Lawyers Receiving Fraudulent Calls for Dues**

The Illinois State Bar Association has been notified that someone is contacting their members claiming to represent ISBA and seeking to collect dues via credit card payment. While there is no information to indicate that the same situation exists here in Mississippi, we thought it prudent to alert you. The Mississippi Bar does not use telemarketing services. If you are contacted by someone asking for your credit card number for payment of your MB dues, do not give out your information.

**Senator Cochran to Speak at MVLP 25 Year Anniversary on September 21**

Senator Thad Cochran will be the keynote speaker as the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project celebrates its 25th anniversary on Friday, September 21. The event, which will highlight the contributions of the volunteer attorneys who have assisted tens of thousands through the program, is scheduled to take place at the Hilton Jackson. A reception will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m., with dinner following at 7:30 p.m. A special room rate is available at the Hilton for those traveling from out of town. For more details regarding the event, please contact Aboye Jinkiri at [ajinkiri@msbar.org](mailto:ajinkiri@msbar.org) or (601) 960-9577.

**Court Extends Comment Period for Proposed Rules**

On behalf of the Mississippi Supreme Court, the Supreme Court Rules Committee announces that two proposed rules amendments will be posted for public comment on the NEWS section of the Court's website. <http://www.mssc.state.ms.us/> Pursuant to Rule 27(f) of the Mississippi Rules of Appellate Procedure, the two proposals were posted for a 30-day public comment period beginning August 7, 2007. The comment period has been extended until September 28. They are proposed MRCP 26A - Discovery and Pretrial Practice in Actions Under \$50,000 and proposed amendment to MRCP 45 to provide a time frame within which to respond to subpoena to produce and permit inspection of documents.

### **Mississippi Innocence Project Formed - Inaugural Dinner on October 22**

With the assistance of John Grisham and Scott Turow the Innocence Project of Mississippi has been formed. All Mississippi lawyers are invited the inaugural dinner for the Project in Jackson on October 22, 2007. The Mississippi Innocence Project is committed to providing the highest quality legal representation to its clients: state prisoners serving significant periods of incarceration who have cognizable claims of wrongful conviction. In addition, the Project seeks to identify systemic problems in the state's criminal justice system, develop initiatives designed to raise public and political awareness of the prevalence, causes and societal costs of wrongful convictions, and to promote meaningful criminal justice reform. The 2007 Inaugural Dinner is planned for Monday evening, October 22, in Jackson. Grisham and Turow, who among their many other accomplishments, have been leaders in the areas of wrongful conviction and national criminal justice issues, will be there to discuss the importance of the movement generally, and this Project in particular. Tickets are \$125 per person and available by contacting Renee Van Slyke, at 662-915-6822 or [reneevan@olemiss.edu](mailto:reneevan@olemiss.edu). Individuals, firms and other organizations who would like to purchase tables for the evening or otherwise make a donation to the Project should contact Tucker Carrington, [carringw@olemiss.edu](mailto:carringw@olemiss.edu), P.O. Box 1848, University, MS 38677, (662) 915-5207, or Tim Walsh, Associate Dean for Development, at (662) 915-7375 or [tim@olemiss.edu](mailto:tim@olemiss.edu). To request disability-related assistance call 662-915-6900.

### **Women Lawyers Brown Bag Luncheon**

Women Lawyers - Are you interested in joining other colleagues at the Bar for a weekly Brown Bag Luncheon to discuss issues pertinent to women in the profession? Please contact Lillie Cox at 601-948-0989 or [lcox@msbar.org](mailto:lcox@msbar.org) and provide your name, phone number, email address, and a preferred day and time when you are available for this luncheon.

### **What Can Law Schools Do Better?**

Two independent, five-year studies on legal education published their findings in March 2007. While employing different methodologies, their recommendations were almost identical: Law schools over-emphasize teaching legal analysis and doctrinal knowledge and ignore teaching professional skills and values. The cover story of this issue features articles and interviews from six legal educators who are implementing or are planning exciting, innovative programs at schools. In many local editions of TCL, deans and professors offer their perspectives on the research findings of these and earlier studies. [Just click here to get to this issue of The Complete Lawyer.](#)

### **Important Rule 6.1 Reporting Resources**

The Bar's membership department has been inundated with telephone calls about the annual pro bono reporting section of the Bar's 2007-2008 Enrollment Fees form. Before calling the Bar, please take a moment to read Rule 6.1 of the Mississippi Rules of Professional Conduct and the Comments to the Rule [here](#), and the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the Rule [here](#). These resources are located on the Bar's website [here](#). The Rule, the comments and the FAQ should answer most of the questions that have been directed to the Bar. Many of the calls to the Bar are from attorneys' support staff. Attorneys are strongly encouraged to read these sources and instruct their staff on how to properly fill out the form. If after reading these sources you still have a question, please contact the Bar at 601-948-4471.

### **North Mississippi Lawyers' Support Group**

If you are feeling stressed, depressed, burned out or could generally use some support, please join us at the North Mississippi Lawyers' Support Group the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at 5:30 PM. This is a very open and welcoming group and we are always happy to see new faces. Confidentiality is a priority. We meet at the University Counseling Center on the Ole Miss Campus, Corner of Poole and All American Drive. For more information, contact Linda at 662-816-3971 or e-mail [slindylou@yahoo.com](mailto:slindylou@yahoo.com).

### **Harrison County Young Lawyers Association Tennis Tournament - September 14**

Join the Harrison County Young Lawyers Association for an afternoon of tennis and support the Make-a-Wish Foundation, which enriches the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions through its wish-granting work. The 2007 HCYLA Tennis Tournament will be held at the Bayou Bluff Tennis Club in Gulfport on Friday, September 14, 2007. Play begins at 1:00 PM. Teams of two should sign up for pro set men's doubles, women's doubles, or mixed doubles. Winners will be awarded fabulous prizes from local merchants. Teams are guaranteed to play two sets. The cost is \$50 per team, and all entry forms should be turned in by September 12. For an entry form, contact Jason Savarese at [jsavarese@cablone.net](mailto:jsavarese@cablone.net).

### **Tri-County Legal Support Professionals to Meet - September 20**

The September meeting of TCLSPA will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at Golden Corral off of Lakeland Drive in Flowood, MS. The Honorable Roger Clapp, former Chancery Judge for Rankin County, will be the speaker. He will speak on the ethical considerations of the support staff in the legal field. Support professionals, attorneys and students are invited to attend. Dinner will be Dutch Treat and will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a short business meeting prior to the speaker. Please RSVP to [rpeden@brunini.com](mailto:rpeden@brunini.com) for reservations.

### **Upcoming CLE Offerings**

#### **Digital Evidence: New Rules & Recent Developments from the Courts, Parts I & II - Sept. 11-12**

The Young Lawyers Division of The Mississippi Bar will sponsor the following teleseminar in September. The seminar will be held from 12-1 p.m. and is accessible from your home or office phone. This program will provide a detailed examination of the new federal rules governing e-discovery and the practical impact of the new rules on civil litigation practice across many substantive areas of law. The program will also provide a non-technical examination of the technology that underlies the creation and discovery of electronic evidence. The challenge cannot be understated. The ubiquity of electronic communications technologies - e-mail, computer files, instant messaging, and more - have led to an explosion of electronic evidence. A veritable cottage industry has grown up around the retention and investigation of this evidence. Although the new rules are intended to reduce the cost of litigation over time, in the short-term they will likely increase costs. This program will be a practical guide through the new rules, recent case law interpreting them, and provide a practical layman's guide through the underlying technological challenges. For details on what will be covered each day, click [here](#). To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this teleseminar, please contact Ginger Blanchard at [gblanchard@msbar.org](mailto:gblanchard@msbar.org).

#### **Developments in Daubert Evidence In the Courtroom, Parts I and II - Sept. 13-14**

The Young Lawyers Division of The Mississippi Bar will sponsor the following teleseminar. The program will be held from 12-1 p.m. and is accessible from your home or office phone. In *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals*, the U.S. Supreme Court case worked a fundamental change on the admissibility of scientific expert testimony. *Daubert* has been extended by subsequent case law to reach non-scientific technical expert testimony. Federal and state case law in this area are in a state of continual flux. Led by Edward Imwinkelried, one of the nation's foremost authorities on expert testimony and whose work the Supreme Court cited in its decision in *Daubert*, this program will review the legal framework governing the admissibility of scientific and non-scientific expert testimony. The program will also provide real-world strategies for surviving *Daubert* challenges and preparing expert testimony. For details on what will be covered each day, click [here](#). To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this teleseminar, please contact Ginger Blanchard at [gblanchard@msbar.org](mailto:gblanchard@msbar.org).

#### **Admiralty and Maritime Law Update CLE - September 14**

The National Sea Grant Law Center and the University of Mississippi Center for Continuing Legal Education will host an Admiralty and Maritime Law CLE course in Oxford on September 14,

2007. The course offers six hours of CLE credit, including one hour of ethics. The event will be held at The Depot on the University of Mississippi campus. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the first session starts at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is provided. Cost is \$150 for attorneys, \$75 for non-attorneys. To receive a registration form, please email Terra Bowling at [tmharget@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmharget@olemiss.edu).

**Commercial Leasing Part I (Office Space) & Part II (Retail and Manufacturing) - Sept. 18-19**

The Young Lawyers Division of The Mississippi Bar will sponsor the following tele-seminar in September. This program will be held from 12-1 p.m. and is accessible from your home or office phone. Leases for office, retail and manufacturing space are increasingly complex documents that bind landlord and tenant for many years and involve the transfer of substantial sums of money. "Boilerplate" provisions in "form" agreements are of little use as the parties jockey for maximum flexibility over a lengthy term, with tenant flexibility often competing with landlord certainty. This program will be a real-world guide through the most important and highly negotiated provisions in office, retail and manufacturing space. Led by two experts with several decades of negotiating leases nationwide, this program will highlight the most important lease provisions that you should focus on when negotiating and drafting commercial leases for your clients. For details on what will be covered each day, click [here](#). To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this teleseminar, please contact Ginger Blanchard at [gblanchard@msbar.org](mailto:gblanchard@msbar.org)

**Real Estate Finance: Getting a Deal Done in a Troubled Market - Sept. 21 (180 minutes)**

The Young Lawyer Division will sponsor a new option for CLE as the educational network is launching a new recurring series of video Webcasts. These will be offered twice a month on an ongoing basis. No special equipment is needed, only a computer equipped with speakers and access to the internet. The system will automatically adjust to the speed at which your system has access. No phones will be involved. The procedure to sign on is the same, instead of giving you a number to call, you will be provided with a weblink. In case you have trouble accessing the stream, you will also be provided with an 800 tech support number. With growing upheaval in the credit and real estate markets threatening many deals there is no more timely topic than real estate finance for professionals advising real estate developers, investors and others. This three-hour Live Video Webcast will provide you a practical guide to understanding how lenders underwrite a commercial real estate loan, understanding in detail the lender's methodology and understanding how real estate financing loan documentation complements the underwriting process. To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this webcast, please contact Ginger Blanchard at [gblanchard@msbar.org](mailto:gblanchard@msbar.org).

**Modern Licensing for Non-IP Transactional Attorneys-September 28 (180 minutes)**

The Young Lawyer Division will sponsor a new option for CLE as the educational network is launching a new recurring series of video Webcasts. These will be offered twice a month on an ongoing basis. No special equipment is needed, only a computer equipped with speakers and access to the internet. The system will automatically adjust to the speed at which your system has access. No phones will be involved. The procedure to sign on is the same, instead of giving you a number to call, you will be provided with a weblink. In case you have trouble accessing the stream, you will also be provided with an 800 tech support number. Licenses have become bedrock agreements of not only intellectual property practice but also of traditional business transactional practice. So much of the value of client businesses today consist of intellectual property - technology, trade secrets, know-how and brands - that it is essential for business practice to understand the substantive law governing licensing and intricacies of a modern license. Led by national experts on modern licensing, this three hour Live Video Webcast will guide business transactional attorneys through the law governing licenses, the key provisions and interrelationships of a modern license, and how effectively advance client business objectives. To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this webcast, please contact Ginger Blanchard at [gblanchard@msbar.org](mailto:gblanchard@msbar.org).

**Unique Opportunity For Family Lawyers - October 10-13**

The ABA Family Law Section is coming to Memphis on October 10-13, 2007. The conference will be held at the Peabody Hotel. This is a unique opportunity to have fellowship with lawyers from all over the country and Canada and to compare notes and practices. There will be three days of CLE with topics ranging from Hidden Assets in Military Divorce Cases, Electronic Evidence, Representing the Small Business Owner in Divorce, Handling Substance Abuse Issues, Interstate Child Custody, and a Financial and Stock Primer for Lawyers. The ABA last came this close several years ago in New Orleans and over 50 lawyers and judges from our state attended. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to improve your practice by exposing yourself to a National level of practice and CLE! For More Information contact the ABA Family Law Section at 312-988-5145 or Mark Chinn at [mark@chinnandassociates.com](mailto:mark@chinnandassociates.com). You may also register on line at [www.abanet.org/family](http://www.abanet.org/family).