



The Weekly Email Newsletter of The Mississippi Bar
November 26, 2007

Casemaker Tip # 5 Casemaker's Exclusion Function can be used to prohibit undesired cases from being offered to the user

By placing a hyphen (-) immediately before (*no spaces allowed between the hyphen and the word to be excluded*) the term to be eliminated from the search, Casemaker will display only those cases which have desired search terms. For example, **property -commercial** would most likely yield strictly private property cases. Users are able to insert multiple combinations. Entering the words **gross sexual imposition -rape** would eliminate all rape cases. **Drown -swimming -pool** would yield cases in which the word **drown** would appear, but **swimming** and **pool** would not. This useful feature and other search tools allow Casemaker users the flexibility to quickly discover the cases that accurately put them on point.

Lawyers Needed to Serve as Judges for 25th Annual Mississippi High School Mock Trial Competition

Attorney volunteers (of any age) are needed to judge during the 2008 Mississippi High School Mock Trial Competition. The competition will begin in January and we need judges for the four regional competitions and the statewide competition at the end of February. You can sign up to judge by clicking [here](#) or contacting Rene Garner at rgarner@msbar.org to receive a signup form. The dates, times and locations for the competitions are: Oxford Regional at UM Law School on Saturday, January 26th (Round 1: 9-11 a.m., Round 2: 1:15-3:15 p.m.); Jackson Regional at MC Law School on Saturday, February 2nd (Round 1: 9-11:00 a.m., Round 2: 1:15-3:15 p.m.); Hattiesburg Regional at USM Campus, Liberal Arts Building, on Saturday, February 9th (Round 1: 9-11 a.m., Round 2: 1:15-3:15 p.m.); Coast Regional Harrison County Courthouse, Gulfport, Saturday, February 16th (Round 1: 9-11 a.m., Round 2: 1:15-3:15 p.m.); Statewide Competition at Hinds County Courthouse, Friday, February 29th and Saturday, March 1st (Round 1: 3-5 p.m., Round 2: 6-8 p.m., Round 3: 9-11 a.m. and Round 5: 1:00-3:00 p.m.). This competition is sponsored annually by The Mississippi Bar Young Lawyers Division. If you have any questions, please contact Rene Garner at rgarner@msbar.org. Sign up early and get the round of your choice.

Attorneys Needed for Underprivileged Mississippians

A Hinds County client of the MS Volunteer Lawyers Project seeks assistance with a child support modification case (MVLN No. 2007-3494). Beginning on October 1, 2007, he has been ordered to pay \$280 per month in child support

for three minor children. The client, however, is disabled and only receives \$353.04 per month in SSI payments. If you are interested in assisting this client, please contact Mary Todd at mtodd@mvlp.net. To review a complete list of clients in need of *pro bono* assistance, please visit www.probono.net/ms, or call (601) 960-9577 for more information on the [MVL P](#).

MS Women Lawyers Association North MS Meeting

The Mississippi Women Lawyers Association will hold a regional meeting for attorneys practicing in North Mississippi on Wednesday, December 5, 2007, in Tupelo, Mississippi. The meeting will be at Bistro on Main Street in Tupelo at 11:45 a.m. Judge Jacqueline Mask will be the featured speaker. If you are interested in attending, please respond to Diala Chaney at dchaney@webbsanders.com by Friday, November 30. Lunch will be \$20.00 per person.

Have You Checked Out New MB Membership Services - Legal Forms and Online Backup?

The Bar is offering two new membership services - online legal forms and online backup. The Bar now offers to all Mississippi attorneys' access to over 7,000 Mississippi legal forms. The Mississippi Bar FormsPass(R) Legal Forms Library is made possible by an agreement with US Legal, Inc., a Mississippi Company which provides state specific forms to attorneys in all states. FormsPass will allow users to access and use over 7,000 Mississippi legal forms at a highly reduced rate. To activate your subscription go [here](#) and complete the form and fax or mail to US Legal, Inc. For more information visit the forms site at www.formspass.com/msbar/ The second new member service is CoreVault an online data backup and recovery service that helps protect data by getting it offsite on a daily and automated basis, while storing it in two geographically separate data centers. Single files and e-mails can be restored in a matter of minutes, which dramatically improves disaster recovery/business continuity plans. Through CoreVault the Bar is now offering this automated and offsite data protection to all Mississippi members at a special member price starting as low as \$29.95/month. To learn more about this new service and get a quick quote for your firm, e-mail the CoreVault at sales@corevault.net or call at 1-888-265-5818. You can also visit CoreVault at www.corevault.net/msbar or go to the Bar's website <http://www.msbar.org/> and click on the CoreVault Online Backup link at the top of the page.

Upcoming CLE Offerings

Estate Planning for Transfers of Real Property - November 27 and 28

The Young Lawyers Division of The Mississippi Bar will sponsor the following tele-seminar for the month of November. This program will be held from 12-1 p.m. and is accessible from your home or office phone. Estates with substantial real estate holdings have special challenges for estate planners, starting with the illiquidity of most property and the difficulty of making periodic distributions to beneficiaries, or tax payments. This program will provide an overview of the life cycle of working with real estate entrepreneurs in preparing their estate, business succession, and charitable giving plans. The first day of the program will focus on the right choice of entity for real estate holdings, restructuring real

estate portfolios and plans for lifetime giving. The second day of the program will focus on valuation discount issues, business succession planning whether family members are involved in the business or not, and charitable giving. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about practical estate planning techniques to use for the unique challenges of real estate. To download a registration form, please click [here](#). For more information on this teleseminar, please contact Rene Garner at rgarner@msbar.org.

Risky Business - Financing and Distributing Independent Films - November 30

The Tupelo Film Commission will host a CLE on Mark Litwak's seminar "Financing and Distributing Independent Films" Friday, November 30th at the BancorpSouth Conference Center in Tupelo, Mississippi beginning at 9 a.m. With the newly revised Motion Picture Incentive Program recently approved by legislation, Mississippi has become an attractive and competitive state for filming. Mark Litwak, veteran entertainment attorney based in Beverly Hills, will cover legal aspects of filmmaking applying both to attorneys and filmmakers. Clients of Mark's whose films exhibited during Sundance 2007 are Black Snake Moan, The Ten, Padre Nuestro, Expired and Fido. Special events are planned for the attendee the night before seminar begins. Visit www.tupelo.net/filmfest for details on seminar and special events. Discount price offered which will include lunch, CLE credit of 6.0 hours and processing fee for CLE. For more information, please contact Pat Rasberry at 662-841-6599. On-line registration is available. Register now as space is limited.

Save the Date: Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law CLE - Feb. 7 & 8, 2008

In conjunction with the 5th Annual Oxford Film Festival in Oxford, MS (Feb 7-10), Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law to hold CLE. Earn up to 12 CLE credits, including 1 hour of ethics, while mixing with other attorneys, writers, filmmakers, and film industry professionals. Topics for Feb. 7 include: Recent Updates in IP; Issues in Corporate IP; Ethics in Contract Negotiation; and Growing an Intellectual Property Practice in MS. Topics for Feb. 8 include: From Page to Film: Selling Screenplays for the big screen: Federal & State Tax Incentives for Filmmakers; In Synch: Music in Film; Legal Issues in New Media, and many more. Register for 1 day, 2 days or get a discount when you register for the CLE and buy a film festival weekend pass! Full schedules and registration forms will follow in December 2007. For more information, contact Anne E. Pitts at aepitts@fergussionpitts.com.

Diversity in the Law Touch Ten in Ten Challenge

As a community outreach goal for this year, the Diversity in the Law Committee is presenting a challenge to the Young Lawyers of Mississippi to recruit at least 100 young lawyers throughout the state to volunteer one hour per month to speak to a group of at least 10 children or adults. There are no age limitations and you can speak to community groups such as the Boys and Girls Clubs, Churches, Schools, YMCA or any place where people can come together and hear you! There are no limitations as to the topics that can be covered at each session. The discussions can range from legal counseling to motivational presentations, the possibilities are endless. All that is required of the young lawyers is to: (1) identify a different group to speak to each month,

(2) present a topic or activity for the group, (the bar can provide the "Choose Law" DVD from the ABA as one resource to use) and (3) log the time spent doing the activity on the YLD Volunteer Hours form. The objective is that young lawyers will touch the lives of at least ten thousand individuals by sharing information on essential topics that are plaguing the community and by assisting members of the community in making positive choices for themselves, their families and their future. This challenge begins this month and runs through July. To download a volunteer form, click [here](#). For more information, contact John Williams at jwilliams@msaclu.org; or Psonya Wilson at pwilson@tougaloo.edu.