

MESSAGE TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SECTION MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAR

The IP Section officers met recently to discuss projects and ideas for the upcoming year that would benefit our section members. The officers for this year are Will Wilkins--Vice Chair, Clint Pentecost--Secretary/Treasurer, Whit Rayner--Past Chair, Stephan McDavid and Terry Morris--Executive Comm.

We discussed how the IP Section could provide information on IP topics for all bar members and not just our section, which Bar President Richard Roberts has stated as a goal for this year. To that end, we will provide some general IP information, short articles, checklists etc. on the Bar's Web site. For example, Terry Morris has provided a summary chart generally describing the different IP rights which will be placed on the web-site. We will also post a general FAQ on IP topics and hope to provide links to other resources, such as the US Patent and Trademark Office, Copyright Office, etc. Please let Spiller or me know if you have any other suggestions or ideas with respect to how we can provide support and information to all bar members.

For 2004, each issue of The Mississippi Lawyer magazine will have featured articles on different practice areas. The IP Section will be responsible for 2 articles and our deadline to submit the articles is July 1, 2004. Whit Rayner, Watkins, Ludlam, has volunteered to write one piece. If you are interested in authoring the second article for The Mississippi Lawyer that you feel will be of interest to the Bar members, please let Spiller and me know.

The officers also have tentatively planned to have a CLE in connection with the Oxford Film Festival, which will be held in June. Many details need to be worked out before this is a confirmed event, but Ann Pitts, McDavid & Associates, has agreed to spearhead our efforts for this event and further details will be forthcoming.

The officers have planned to produce a newsletter to be published 2 (maybe 3) times this upcoming year. If you would like to write a short article or have any topics you would like to see addressed, please let Spiller or me know. We expect to publish the first newsletter in the by early spring and a second newsletter in the summer.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve the IP Section and please feel free to contact me or any of the officers if you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can better provide information or services to our Section members as well as all Bar members.

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