Focus on Professional Responsibility
The mission of the Professional Responsibility Committee is to improve the law and inform section members with respect to issues of legal ethics, professional responsibility, professional conduct, and the law governing lawyers. As a reminder, the committee has expertise in model rules of professional conduct, formal opinions of the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, issues of ethics and professional responsibility law that affect lawyers whose practice (whether transactional, counseling, or dispute resolution) involves business law or the governmental regulation of business, the interface between general rules of ethics and professional responsibility and specialized rules of ethics and professional responsibility promulgated by statute or administrative regulation, and issues of multinational ethics and professional responsibility encountered in the transnational practice of law, including issues affecting multinational law firms and law departments.

This month’s quarterly newsletter is published right in time for the ABA’s Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C., held from April 4 to 6. The committee newsletter provides useful information on the use of social media in law, new case law developments in certain states, and an update on subcommittees.

Nonprofit Organizations Committee
The Nonprofit Organizations Committee provides a resource for nonprofit lawyers on issues affecting nonprofit organizations in a rapidly changing legal and regulatory environment and monitors and updates the Model Nonprofit Corporation Act. For recorded webinars and the Spring Meeting schedule, visit their main committee page.

The Nonprofit Organizations Committee Chair, Michael E. Malamut, provides an overview of the upcoming programs at the Spring Meeting in the first quarterly newsletter. The committee is a main sponsor of “Setting up a Social Entrepreneurship Organization,” a panel discussing the different legal structures for a social entrepreneurial organization. It has participated in the preparing the following CLE programs for the Spring Meeting:

- “Lawyer’s Obligations Servicing Boards of Nonprofits.”
- “Health Care M&A Legal and Financing Issues: 2012 and Beyond.”
- “Showcasing Diamonds: An Interactive Discussion with Glass Cutters.”

The newsletter, packed with useful information, provides a summary of law review articles relating to nonprofit organizations, national updates, and state updates. Some of the featured articles include:


- Kavita Gupta’s article in the California Bankruptcy Journal 2012, “Representing a Nonprofit Debtor in Bankruptcy” which provides useful information for practitioners on the bankruptcy process for nonprofit organizations.