

NABE-News



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CALENDAR

from www.nabenet.org

NABE Administration and Finance Section Meeting

When: Feb. 7 - 8
Where: Salt Lake City, UT

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meeting

When: Feb. 8-12
Where: Salt Lake City, UT

CSE Retreat

When: March 8 - 9, 2005
Where: Chicago, IL

Bar Leadership Institute

When: March 10 -12, 2005
Where: Chicago, IL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NABE ELECTIONS: With the presidential inauguration only two days away, it seems like an opportune time to mention the 2005-06 NABE Board of Directors election. The open positions are:

- Vice President – This is a one-year term, after which the lucky person succeeds to the position of president-elect and then president. Persons running for this position must have either current or prior service on the NABE Board and must represent a local bar association.
- Secretary – This is a one-year term; there are no restrictions on who can run.
- Treasurer – This is a two-year term; there are no restrictions on who can run.
- State Bar Director – This is a two-year term; candidates must be employed by a state bar association.
- Local Bar Director – This is a two-year term; candidates must be employed by a local bar association.
- At-Large Director – This is a two-year term; there are no restrictions on who can run, so you can be employed by a state, local or specialty bar as long as you're a member of NABE.

The nominating petition and election guidelines were emailed to all NABE members this week and also are posted on the website, www.nabenet.org. Nominating petitions must be signed by five regular NABE members and are due by March 15. Election ballots will be mailed on April 15 and must be returned by May 16.

Now that you've heard the basics of the nominating and election process, I want to make a push for those of you who have considered running for a NABE officer position or the Board -- **TO GET OUT THERE AND DO IT!** It's very easy to get five NABE members to sign your petition. . . just bring it to the Midyear Meeting in Salt Lake City. The best thing about being a NABE board member is getting to know a broad spectrum of NABE members – people with whom you might never have forged a relationship. As I said in my “coronation” speech, each of us needs connections and relationships when times get tough, either personally or professionally. Some NABE members have expressed reservations about running in a contested race. I believe it's possible (and I did it) to run in a contested race and still remain friendly with the other person. Sure, it hurts to lose, but we've had presidents of the Memphis Bar Association who have run two or three times before finally winning (they're either not very bright or gluttons for punishment – you decide!)

Ok, 'nuff said on that subject.

CSE RETREAT: Don't forget the CSE Retreat on March 8 and 9, immediately prior to the BLI. The retreat begins with a reception and dinner on Tuesday night. Programming on Wednesday includes sessions on executive compensation and setting professional and personal boundaries, as well as the ever-popular case studies. For relatively new bar executives, this is a great opportunity to learn, share, and get support. The deadline to get the early registration fee is February 18, so if you're planning to attend, sign up now!

GRAMM-LEACH-BILLEY DRAFT AMICUS BRIEF: An amicus brief on behalf of state and local bar associations has been drafted by Peter Buscemi of Morgan Lewis in Washington, DC and Tom Morgan of the George Washington School of Law. The amicus brief supports the positions of the ABA and the New York State Bar Association in the appeal filed by the Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice regarding the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act's privacy and notification provisions and its applicability to lawyers.

If your bar association is interested in joining as a signatory to the amicus brief, please notify Melinda Jane Bentley (mbentley@isba.org), First Assistant Counsel for the Illinois State Bar Association, by noon on January 24. She needs to know the proper name, title and contact information to be included on the signature page of the amicus brief.

If you need additional background information on the ABA's involvement with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, visit www.abanet.org/poladv/glbfactsheet.html. If you would like the draft amicus brief emailed to you, contact Melinda or me (afritz@memphisbar.org).

LAW DAY PLANNING GUIDES: The 2005 Planning Guide should be available by the end of January. The guides are free, and the ABA Division for Public Education encourages bars to order enough guides for their key members. If you haven't done so already, you can go to www.abanet.org/publiced/lawday/distribution.html to order copies. Guides can be sent directly to the bar association or distributed to a list of people who want the guide. For more information, contact Adrienne Barney at 312/988-5731 or barneya@staff.abanet.org.

LAWYER STATISTICAL REPORT: Are you ever asked demographic questions about the lawyer population in your state? If so, a new publication, *The Lawyer Statistical Report: The U.S. Legal Profession in 2000*, may be of help. It contains statistics on the number of lawyers in each state and breaks them down by sex, age, employment, and practice setting. What are the top three states in terms of lawyer population? First is New York, with 142,487 lawyers or 14.2% of all practitioners in the US. It's followed by California (133,846 lawyers; 12.4% of all practitioners in the US) and Texas (67,642 lawyers; 6.3% of all practitioners in the US). The total number of lawyers in the US in 2000 was 1,066,328, which breaks down to 1 lawyer for every 264 people.

If you've found all of this fascinating so far, and would like to get a copy of the report (I paid \$40 for it), contact Clara Carson, the author, at the American Bar Foundation, 312/988-6539 or clara@abfn.org.