

We are Making a Difference



Colin "Cal" J. S. Thomas, Jr., 2002–2003 Senior Lawyers Conference Chair

I would like to use this opportunity to talk about what the Senior Lawyers Conference is doing, or at least trying to do:

- Thanks to Frank Brown, we have what may be the best Web site at the VSB (www.vsb.org/slc). I urge that you visit our site. Let us know of other topics for our links. Regardless of the type of your law practice, I think we fill your needs.
- Marshall Mundy and Glasgow Butts—with help from Vicky Wiese—have contributed several thought provoking and widely quoted articles on civility and professionalism. With the help of our judicial members, the conference hopes to present a short program to the Virginia judiciary. The conference board believes that the Virginia judiciary might be more proactive concerning civility and professionalism.
- Bob Cox advises that we will have soon completed all of the planning for a CLE qualified seminar on retirement planning that will be a joint effort with Virginia CLE. I have seen the outline for this program: It should be required for all of us who are slowing down or nearing retirement and even those of us who have recently gotten there.
- Opie Pollard is updating the existing *Senior Citizen's Handbook* and is creating an additional section dealing with the rights of senior citizens.
- Pat Barton, our chair-elect, continues our work on the issues of planning for disability or death. I am extremely proud of the work that our conference has done thus far. Not only have we

saved the Virginia State Bar substantial funds, but we have also helped "stranded" clients. The conference helped gain the requirement for lawyers to have a plan to cover the potential of death or disability. A client stranded because of the death or disability of his lawyer needs to be a thing of the past.

- Clarence Dunaville continues his fine efforts in the pro bono area and Hunter Manson continues his worthy contributions on the national health care issue.

At the approximate mid-way point of our conference's second year, I can report that we are on schedule. And I believe we are making a difference. 🍷

For Seniors About Seniors By Seniors

Designed to meet the needs of Virginia's elder citizens, the *Senior Citizens Handbook* contains information about:

- Social Security • Food Stamps • Estate and Gift Taxes
- Medicare & Medicaid • Alzheimer's Disease
- Choosing a Care Facility • Landlord/Tenant Issues
- Advance Directives • Protecting Yourself as a Consumer
- Age & Disability Discrimination • Elder Abuse
- Helpful Contacts

Available in Spanish

See www.vsb.org/publications for details.