

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS

CONSTRUCTION LAW AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS SECTION

John S. Norris, Jr., Chair

The Construction Law and Public Contracts Section continued to provide members with informative seminars and newsletters throughout the year. In November of 2001, a record number of attendees were present for the fall program hosted at the Boar's Head Inn in Charlottesville. The seminar provided a year's worth of CLE credits, including ethics, on topics of interest to a broad range of construction law practitioners. Subjects included the management of design/build projects, the utilization of expert witnesses, mechanic's liens, pricing and proving damages and issues related to the proliferation of EIFS litigation. The seminar was highlighted by a cocktail party sponsored by more than a dozen outside contributors.

The 23rd annual fall program is scheduled for November 1 and 2, again at the Boar's Head Inn in Charlottesville. The seminar will include a luncheon speaker who will talk about the repair of the Pentagon after the September 11 attack.

Two newsletters in the past year provided section members with an array of state and federal decisions on construction and public procurement litigation. The newsletters also included articles by guest authors. Special thanks are reserved for William Mauck and Joseph West for their continuing efforts editing the newsletter.

Our section teamed with the Environmental Law and Local Government Law sections to sponsor a program at the annual meeting on the topic of toxic mold litigation. The program was well attended and provided a wealth of information on this growing area of law. Terry Murphy and his committee did an excellent job of coordinating the program with the other sections involved.

Chris McAnney and Tim Hughes completed another superb effort updating the section's *Handbook and Reference Manual* that will again be distributed to section members in CD-ROM format. The members will also receive a roster of section members as part of the new manual.

Charles Durant coordinated with the state bar to develop a Web page for the section. Look for embellishments to the Web page in the coming year.

The section has committed to sponsoring the February issue of the *Virginia Lawyer* magazine. Section members interested in authoring articles for the magazine should communicate with Terry Murphy, at Kaufman & Canoles in Norfolk, Virginia. Articles should be 3,500 words in length and should be submitted in final form by December.

A nominating committee, consisting of Chris McAnney, Jack Rephan, Stan Barnhill, Bill Thurston and Bob Cox nominated the following slate of officers for the 2002–03 term: Terry Murphy, chair; Chris McAnney, vice chair; Tim Hughes, secretary. Matt Pritts, from Roanoke and James Barkley from Charlottesville were nominated for three-year terms as members of the board of governors. The nominating committee's recommendations were approved unanimously at the summer meeting.

It was an honor to serve as chair for the section during the past year—an effort made far easier and more enjoyable by the dedicated members of the board.

