

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SEMINARS

Bernard J. DiMuro, Chair

This committee plans midyear legal seminars. Members of the committee were: Mary Dalton Baril; Michael J. Blachman; John A. Dezio; James W. Korman; Richard S. Mendelson; Arthur V. Shaheen; Stephen A. Strickler and Kenneth R. Weiner.

The 2001 midyear seminar was scheduled in Florence and Rome, Italy in mid-November. Following the events of September 11, and in light of several inquiries from participants concerning the status of the seminar, the State Bar polled all of the registrants for the trip and found that about two-thirds of the participants preferred not to go forward with the seminar in a foreign destination. The Midyear Seminar Committee met by conference call in late September and voted unanimously to cancel the Italy seminar for 2001 and reschedule the seminar in Florence and Rome in November 2002, using the same hotels and similar dates. With the assistance of Tour Plan International, the committee also developed an alternative seminar package for November 2001 in San Francisco; however, there were not enough interested participants.

The committee met in early February to finalize the plans for the 2002 seminar. The CLE program will include presentations from the litigation, general practice and intellectual property law sections. Each section will underwrite the cost of its program's speakers, with a small subsidy to be provided by the midyear seminar budget. The seminar will likely qualify for nine CLE credits, including 1.5 hours of ethics.

