

GENERAL PRACTICE

Judy L. August, chair

First Day in Practice Seminar

The General Practice Section's headline production is its annual First Day in Practice Seminar, cosponsored by the Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference. This program is available to all new bar admittees at minimal cost. The faculty of the 2004 First Day in Practice Seminar included the following speakers: Virginia Court of Appeals Judge James W. Benton Jr.; retired U.S. District Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr.; Circuit Judge Leslie M. Alden, General District Judge Jacqueline Ward Talevi; Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Judge Denis F. Soden; attorneys Craig S. Cooley, Jeannie P. Dahnk, Frank O. Brown Jr., Gerald A. Schwartz, Terrence R. Batzil, Joseph W. Richmond, Keith L. Phillips, and Sharon D. Nelson; and computer expert John W. Simek.

The Tradition of Excellence Award

The General Practice Section annually recognizes an attorney with at least ten years of experience practicing law and five years as a general practitioner who "embodies the highest tradition of personal and professional excellence in Virginia and in doing so enhances the image and esteem of attorneys in the commonwealth." The 2005 Tradition of Excellence Award was presented to Lawrence H. Hoover Jr. of Harrisburg.

Annual Meeting Workshop

At the VSB Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach in June 2005, the General Practice Section cosponsored with the Trust & Estates Section and the Senior Lawyers Conference a seminar on current developments in estate and trust law. Frank O. Brown Jr. of the Senior Lawyers Conference moderated.

Section Newsletter

Kathleen A. McKee from the Regent University School of Law and Daniel J. Farnsworth Jr. of Keysville continue to edit our newsletter.

2004–2005 Board

The new officers for the section are Mona S. Flax, chair; Charles E. Adams, vice-chair; and Daniel J. Farnsworth Jr., secretary. Other board members include Deborah C. Embrey of Lynchburg, Linda Y. Lambert of Richmond, Kathleen A. McKee of Virginia Beach, George W. Shanks of Luray, Aubrey Jones Rosser Jr. of Altavista, Jill C. Dickerson of Farmville, Alexander F. Dillard Jr. of Tappahannock and David D. Masterman of McLean. Judicial members include the Honorable Barbara Joan Gaden of Richmond and the Honorable Harry T. Taliaferro III of Warsaw. Powell L. Duggan, immediate past chair, is an ex officio member.

Acknowledgments

Our section's accomplishments would not be possible without our bar liaison Patricia A. Sliger, who is indispensable. This section would have perished long ago without her support, enthusiasm and dedication. Also, thanks to all the Virginia State Bar personnel and the members of our section who contribute their time and their talents to promoting the continued success of the General Practice Section.

