

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Dennis W. Dohnal, Chair

As they say, “old committees never die, they just fade away”—well, something like that! In any event, as planned (and hoped), the Special Committee has completed its task with the Virginia Supreme Court’s approval of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct which will become effective on January 1, 2000. Accordingly, the committee will “pass the baton” to the Standing Committee on Legal Ethics which will receive and consider requests for opinions based on the new regimen. In the meantime, a special transition team, chaired by John Levy who has served as vice chair of the Special Committee over time, is coordinating all necessary efforts between the various factions that are directly involved, namely, the LEO Committee, the Disciplinary Board (and entire disciplinary system), the Professionalism Course (to revamp course materials) and CLE. In regard to the latter, all efforts are being expended by voluntary appearances at various seminars and Bar Association functions to avoid the necessity for any mandatory CLE course. Having completed its task, the Special Committee will now simply “fade away.” ❀