

REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS

CORPORATE COUNSEL SECTION

Barbara Lucille Spencer, Chair

The Corporate Counsel Section enjoyed a year of accomplishments with two major activities that have been maturing in concept over the past several years. First, our law school writing competition sparked entries from Virginia students and challenged our section judges to select first, second and third place winners from among a talented field. It appears that we have finally identified our own winning combination of incentive and publicity to launch this project, and we are hopeful that it will continue to attract competition in the years ahead.

The article submitted by the writing competition's first place awardee was included among the numerous articles that were published this spring in the *Virginia Lawyer*. The Corporate Counsel Section's sponsorship of the April 1999 issue was the first time we have assisted the bar with this publication, and we were proud that the editor generously acknowledged the fruits of our labor with an invitation to do it again sometime!

Our regional luncheons in May continue to be popular with the membership of the Section, as evidenced by record attendance this year in Northern Virginia, Richmond and Hampton Roads. Many participants expressed an interest in holding the luncheon more frequently, which is something we certainly will try to accommodate.

The topic of our CLE workshop at the annual bar meeting in Virginia Beach was the use of alternative dispute resolution for employment disputes. The Section co-sponsored this event with the Business Law Section, with extensive efforts on the part of the American Arbitration Association in identifying and coordinating the panel of speakers, as well as in compiling the written materials.

New members were elected to the board of governors at the section annual membership meeting in June, and at the same meeting we adopted amendments to the bylaws. The changes to the bylaws will be effective after approval by Bar Council and published on our soon-to-be-improved Web site. ❀