

ON LAWYER MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

Darrel Tillar Mason, chair

This fifteen-person committee had a successful year serving Virginia State Bar members through new and ongoing programs.

The initiatives included the updating and republication of the valuable resource *Lawyers and Other People's Money: A Resource for Maintaining Trust Accounts*. This resource is now available for free download at www.vsb.org/docs/Lawyers_OPM_electronic.pdf.

To complement this re-issue, the committee completed development of a new interactive continuing education program, "The Devil Wore Green: Trust Accounting and You." This ethics program is now available without charge to local bar organizations.

In addition, the committee has been working with the bar's endorsed carrier, Attorneys Liability Protection Society (ALPS), to develop a lawyer-friendly trust accounting software program that would meet the standards of the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct.

The committee continued its participation in the presentation of well-received risk management seminars offered across the state by ALPS. The committee also continued its oversight of the programs offered by the bar's risk managers. Services include a confidential risk management hotline, voluntary solo and small-firm audits, law-office management seminars, and publication of articles in the VSB's *Virginia Lawyer* magazine.

In the area of client protection, the committee continued to evaluate whether the bar is doing all it should to protect the public from harm arising from lawyer malpractice.

