



## **CONSTRUCTION LAW AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS SECTION**

*William R. Mauck, Jr., chair*

The Construction Law and Public Contracts Section enjoyed another extremely successful year in 2005–2006. In early November 2005, we held our twenty-sixth annual continuing legal education program at the Boars Head Inn in Charlottesville. Our program provided attendees with all the CLE credits required for the year and covered recent developments in the law, ethics, mechanic's liens, immigration law, alternative dispute resolution, American Institute of Architects form contracts, and emerging trends in architecture and engineering. We continued our “sticks and bricks” presentations with a program on the management of constructing the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project. We also held two lively panel discussions on the use of technical expert witnesses and factors to consider for presenting expert witness testimony. Kristan B. Burch, Todd R. Metz and K. Brett Marston planned and organized this seminar. Attendees gave the program and speakers high marks for content and presentation.

Our spring program at the Virginia State Bar Annual Meeting in June 2006 focused on bankruptcy issues on construction projects. Ms. Burch selected excellent speakers and our program was well-attended and well-received. We have consciously selected seminar topics that not only are informative and educational, but also have practical application. It is a challenge to offer a balanced series for lawyers who are experienced in this field as well as for newer construction- and public-contracts lawyers. We believe our seminars strike a balance that is helpful and responsive to the needs of our section.

Matthew P.W. Pritts and Mr. Metz produced an excellent and informative section newsletter, in the fall and spring.

The section also updated its handbook of construction cases on CD-ROM for distribution to all members. Mr. Marston and Gregory T. St. Ours, with other section Board of Governors members, analyzed and indexed cases and wrote case digests.

Officers for 2006–2007 are Elaine R. Jordan, chair; William R. Mauck Jr., immediate past chair; Jack Rephan, vice chair; Richard F. Smith, secretary. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as chair of a section comprised of such distinguished lawyers. I thank all board members for their assistance and enthusiasm, and also the Virginia State Bar staff who are so crucial to accomplishing all of our tasks—especially our liaison, Elizabeth L. Keller.

