

## CLBA Programs Touch Students As Well As Bar Leaders



SINCE MY LAST REPORT TO YOU in the February 2009 *Virginia Lawyer*, the Conference of Local Bar Associations (CLBA) has been active and pressing forward with its programs.

On Thursday, March 19, 2009, a town hall meeting — Diversity in the Professions — was held at Norview High School in Norfolk. John Y. Richardson Jr. began developing the program when he was chair last year. The speakers included Virginia Chief Justice Leroy R. Hassell Sr. (who graduated from Norview in 1973), Norfolk City Manager Regina V. K. Williams, and Rear Admiral Julius S. Caesar of the U.S. Navy Reserve, commander of the Naval Installations Command. (See story on page 28.)

“The speakers were informative, candid, and moving,” Richardson said. “One didn’t have to look further to judge the effect on the students than simply watching the students standing in line to talk to the speakers after the formal program concluded.”

VSB President Manuel A. Capsalis moderated the event.

By the time you read this, the Bar Leaders Institute will have taken place at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond. On the program was a three-hour workshop led by nonprofit management consultant Robert C. Harris, who gives advice on how to boost the efficiency and success of bar associations or civic groups. Terry L. Price of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond was slated to discuss his

new book, *Leadership Ethics: An Introduction*.

This year’s Solo & Small-Firm Practitioner Forums will take place Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at Shenandoah University in Winchester and Thursday, July 16, 2009, at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon. Topics will include financial and business dealings with clients; life balance issues for lawyers; appellate practice; and technology for the small firm. As always, the event will conclude with a town hall meeting led by Chief Justice Hassell. For registration information, visit <http://www.vsb.org/site/conferences/clba/view/solo-small-firm-practitioner-forum/>.

*So You’re 18* booklets continue to be in high demand. If you are looking for a way to get into the schools to present this information to the students, we have a blueprint available for a panel discussion. Contact Paulette J. Davidson (804) 775-0521 or [davidson@vsb.org](mailto:davidson@vsb.org) for the blueprint and the *So You’re 18* booklets.

As you may know, VSB President Capsalis’s Diversity Task Force has proposed that a permanent diversity program be established as a conference of the Virginia State Bar. (See story on page 18.)

The Diversity Conference and another proposal that would amend the VSB Mission Statement to add a diversity component will be debated at the June 18, 2009, meeting of the VSB Council at Virginia Beach. The VSB is seeking public comment and the deadline for receiving those comments is May 26, 2009. A description of and links to the proposals can be viewed at <http://www.vsb.org/site/news/item/diversity/>.

Please remember that the CLBA is your organization and is designed to help you and your local bar association. We have many resources and suggestions that will help you with your programs. For assistance contact Ms. Davidson. In addition, if I can help, please contact me at (540) 962-4986 or [wtw1130@aol.com](mailto:wtw1130@aol.com).

### Solo & Small-Firm Practitioner Forums

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Shenandoah University in Winchester

**Thursday, July 16, 2009**

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon

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