

NOTICES TO MEMBERS

ETHICS COMMITTEE RECONSIDERS PROPOSED LEO 1888

The Virginia State Bar's Standing Committee on Legal Ethics has voted not to send proposed Legal Ethics Opinion 1888 to Council. After receiving many comments in support of and in opposition to the proposed LEO, the committee will consider other means of addressing the issues. The proposed LEO concerns a prosecutor's duty to disclose evidence that tends to negate the guilt of the accused.

www.vsb.org/site/regulation/leo_1888

LEO 1885 IS PENDING REVIEW BY THE SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

At its meeting on October 27, on a vote of 59-6, the VSB Council approved LEO 1885, which concludes that a lawyer may not participate in an attorney-client matching service under the facts presented in the opinion because participation violates the Rules of Professional Conduct governing fee sharing with nonlawyers, paying for referrals, and safeguarding client funds. The proposed LEO has been sent to the Supreme Court of Virginia for its consideration.

www.vsb.org/site/regulation/leo_1885

CLIENTS' PROTECTION FUND

Council also unanimously approved the Clients' Protection Fund Board's request to allow the VSB, in the 2018 legislative session, to seek extension of the CPF sunset provision from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023. The proposal has been sent to the Supreme Court of Virginia for its consideration.

www.vsb.org/site/news/item/comments_sought_on_proposed_changes_to_the_CPF_sunset_provision

EMERITUS MEMBERS ALLOWED TO PROVIDE PRO BONO SERVICES

Council also unanimously approved the Special Committee on Access to Legal Services' proposal to amend the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia to allow emeritus members of the VSB to provide pro bono services without direct supervision of a supervising attorney.

www.vsb.org/pro-guidelines/index.php/rule_changes/item/para3_emeritus_2017

COMMISSION ON LAWYER DISCIPLINE SEEKS COMMENTS

The VSB Committee on Lawyer Discipline is seeking public comment on proposed amendments to Paragraph 13 regarding renaming CRESPA to RESA and to Paragraph 13-1, which would add clarity to the definition of Disciplinary Record and define burden of proof in disciplinary proceedings as clear and convincing evidence. Comment deadline is January 15, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY SURVEY SENT

On November 1, the Supreme Court of Virginia's Judicial Performance Evaluation Program sent an eligibility survey to all active and in good standing lawyers listing judges with upcoming evaluations. The survey asks lawyers to indicate which judges they have recently observed. Judicial performance evaluations will be circulated to lawyers beginning in January, based on the responses to the eligibility surveys. Your participation is invaluable.

ELECTRONIC FILING AT THE SUPREME COURT

The US Supreme Court's electronic filing system began operation on November 13, 2017. While paper will remain the official form of filing as under existing practice, parties represented by counsel will also be required to submit most documents through the new electronic filing system. Attorneys who expect to file documents electronically will need to register in advance for the system. Additional information is available.

MCLE REPORTING DEADLINE

The MCLE Form 1 End of Year Report will be mailed soon. The reporting deadline is 4:45 p.m. December 15.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR CRIMINAL LAW SEMINAR

The 48th Annual Criminal Law Seminar, sponsored by the VSB Criminal Law Section and Virginia CLE, is scheduled for February 2 in Charlottesville and February 9 in Williamsburg. Watch for registration information in December.

www.vsb.org/site/sections/criminal/annual-seminar

AWARDS

The VSB is seeking nominations for the following awards, with deadlines in January:

Family Law Service Award

Betty A. Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award

www.vsb.org/site/members/awards-and-contests/

VSb TECHSHOW

Registration is open for the April 23, 2018, VSb TECHSHOW at the Greater Richmond Convention Center.

<http://bit.ly/VSbTECHSHOW2018>