

A B C BUSINESS C COMMITMENT.....

UPDATE

WINTER 2002

ABC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2002 NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

The American Bar Association Section of Business Law is now accepting nominations for its National Public Service Award, which recognizes significant pro bono services rendered to the poor in a business context, and the achievements resulting from the public service work for the clients and the client groups represented. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2002.

The National Public Service award is an outgrowth of the section program "A Business Commitment," designed to match business lawyers and their areas of expertise with those unable to afford a lawyer. Separate awards will be given in both individual and firm/corporate legal department categories.

Nominees must fulfill one of the following criteria:

- Demonstrated dedication to the development and delivery of legal services to the poor in a business context through a pro bono program;
- Contributed to the development of innovative approaches to delivery of volunteer legal services;
- Participated in an activity that satisfied previously unmet needs or in extending services to underserved segments of the population; or
- Provided sustained counsel to poor or underserved individuals or organizations.
- Nominees may not include individuals who provide legal services to the poor for a fee or organizations that predominantly serve the poor, local bank, leases to protecting intellectual property rights.

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ABA Section of Business Law Spring Meeting

April 4-7, 2002



ARTICLES FOR ABA PUBLICATION ON ABC PROGRAMS

Kathleen Hopkins, Vice-chair of the Business Law Section Pro Bono Committee and fellow Executive Committee member Bill Woodward are currently also serving on the editorial board of *Business Law Today*, the section's magazine that has a circulation of over 50,000 business lawyers. Kathleen and Bill are working to gather sufficient articles on ABC programs and other pro bono business law projects to produce an issue of the magazine devoted to pro bono. They have sent out on the ABC listserv a request for first draft of all articles by February 28, 2002. The author guidelines may be found at <http://www.abanet.org/buslaw/blt/index.html> Submissions should be sent to: Khopkins@rp-lawgroup.com.

ABC LISTSERV DOUBLES SUBSCRIPTIONS

In the past several years the number of entities providing pro bono business legal services to non-profits has dramatically increased. The use of information technology has greatly assisted this growth by facilitating the sharing of practical information on the operation of pro bono business entities. In the past year, membership on the ABC listserv has doubled. To allow subscribers to search and retrieve documents from the archives, ABC has installed a search capacity to retrieve substantive information that had previously been exchanged. If you wish to subscribe to the ABC list serv, please contact Guy Lescault at glescault@glsp.org.

Nominating submissions must include name, firm name, address and phone number for both nominee and nominator, the nominee’s resume (no more than three pages) including practice area, service contributions, educational background and bar association activities, a description of how the nominee meets the nomination criteria, the nature of the pro bono work, any documentation of the work, including articles or brochures, and references. Letters of support from other individuals and organizations may be included.

The Pro Bono Committee will consider all nominations, and the winner and nominator will be notified by March 1, 2002. The award will be presented at the Annual Section Luncheon held in Boston on April 5, 2002.

For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Joanne Travis, ABA Section of Business Law, ABC National Public Service Award, 750 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60611, 312/988-5680, or email travisj@staff.abanet.org.

Since its publication in March 2000, the directory listing in the **The ABC Manual: Starting and Operating a Business Law Pro Bono Project** has nearly doubled in entries. ABC revises the manual every quarter. The January 1, 2002 revision will be available on the Section’s website www.abanet.org/buslaw/probono/ABC.pdf.

ABC BOSTON BREAKFAST MEETING

For the Pro Bono Committee Breakfast on Friday, April 5, 2002, the Planning Committee has invited the co-chairs of the Pro Bono Committee of the Business Section of the Boston Bar Association to host a roundtable discussion of their new initiative in Boston. Maribeth Perry, the Director of the Lawyers Committee on Affordable Housing and Jack Eiferman of Goulston Storrs law firm will lead a group discussion of their three prong effort to meet the pro bono business needs of non-profits in the Greater Boston area. The Pro Bono Committee meeting will immediately follow this discussion.

POA HOSTS FOURTH NATIONAL NETWORK MEETING

Power of Attorney (POA) hosted its fourth national network meeting in conjunction with the National Legal Aid & Defender Conference November 10, 2001 in Miami. The agenda for the day meeting had three components. The first session was facilitated by a fundraising professional on specific issues programs were facing in light of the recession and fall out from 9/11. The second part of the day was a joint session with the “Justice for All” network of NLADA. That session examined the concept of “justice for all” at the individual, programmatic community and state level means for providers of free civil legal services. Sean Delaney, Executive Director of Lawyers Alliance for New York facilitated the concluding session on intake criteria. POA has also published the first edition of Network News, which may be found at <http://www.powerofattorney.org>.

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

ABA Section of Business Law Spring Meeting Boston Marriott Boston, MA April 4-7, 2001

Pro Bono Institute Annual Seminar Willard Inter-Continental Washington, DC March 23-24, 2002

For more information contact www.probonoinstitute.org

Pro Bono Committee Breakfast Friday, April 5, 2002 7:30 –9:00 am

Pro Bono Committee Meeting Friday, April 5, 2002 9:00- 10:00 am

Pro Bono Award –Spring Luncheon Friday, April 5, 2002 Noon – 2:00 pm

Chair	James L. Baillie Minneapolis, MN	ABC Project Director	Guy E.Lescault
Vice-Chair	Kathleen Hopkins Seattle, WA		Georgia Legal Services Program 1100 Spring St., NW #200A, Atlanta, GA 30309 404-206-5347
ABA Staff	Sue Daly Joanne Travis Chicago, IL		404-206-5346 FAX glescault@glsp.org

CHECK OUT:

In November 2001, the Fannie Mae Foundation introduced its new online resource to bring together the entire affordable housing and community development industry. www.knowledgeplex.org.