
Helpful Hints for First-Time Attendees

SECTION OF LITIGATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE



WASHINGTON, D.C. | APRIL 16-18, 2008

We are very pleased that you are interested in attending the ABA Section of Litigation's 2008 Section Annual Conference. Here are some helpful hints that will assist you in getting the most out of your first Section Annual Conference experience. We look forward to seeing you in Washington, DC!

Planning Your Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. Sleeping rooms have been blocked at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill and rooms can be booked through the [hotel website](#). Please note the cut-off date for hotel registration is **Friday, March 21**.

The ABA Section of Litigation has many committees that meet and offer programming at the Section Annual Conference. **Committee substantive breakfast programs and business meetings** take place over a two day period and cover various substantive areas. All committee substantive breakfast programs and business meetings will be held at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. Committee business meetings are the business meetings for the committees while committee programs present substantive programming. Both the committee business meetings and the committee programs offer a complimentary continental breakfast for all attendees.

The **onsite brochure**, which you will receive at the meeting registration desk, is a useful guide to the Section Annual Conference. Using the onsite brochure, you can identify the committees that address your area(s) of interest and the meetings and programs they are offering. You can find specific information about committee meetings and programs in the Programming and the Committee Business Meetings portions of the onsite brochure. The **Schedule at-a-glance** section also gives a quick overview of all the programs and the committee business meetings.

Attendance is open to all committee business meetings and committee programs listed in the onsite brochure. Committee membership is not a prerequisite to attend or participate. Check the onsite brochure or the Section website for specific meeting times and locations.

CLE credit is offered for all committee programs, but not for committee business meetings.

Accreditation has been requested from every state with mandatory continuing legal education requirements for lawyers. Certificates of attendance will be available at the conclusion of all programs offering CLE credit. Be sure to fill out the blue sign-in sheet only once for the entire meeting, along with all other necessary forms for credit in your state (please be aware that each state has its own rules and regulations). There will be information at the meeting to help you figure out which CLE forms to sign.

There will also be a CD-ROM, which contains all **program materials**. The CD-ROM will be included in your registration packet that you pick up at the registration desk. There will be printers available if you need to print materials prior to a committee program or committee business meeting.

Events Not To Miss

On Wednesday, April 16, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., join Section leaders and local bar leaders at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill for the **Diversity Reception**. This complimentary cocktail reception celebrates the Section's many diversity programs throughout the year. Advance registration is required; however, attendance is complimentary.

The Section will host a **Welcome Reception** at the historic Union Station on Wednesday, April 16, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This complimentary networking cocktail reception will allow you to network with other Section Annual Conference attendees, the ABA Young Lawyers Division, and ABA Day participants and catch up with colleagues. Advance registration is required; however, attendance is complimentary.

The Networking Luncheon on Thursday, April 17, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, provides an excellent opportunity to network with Section leaders and other Section Annual Conference attendees. The Luncheon's featured speaker will be FBI Director Robert S. Mueller, III. All attendees are welcome to attend; tickets are \$55 each.

The Committee Expo and Joint Reception with the ABA Young Lawyers Division, on Thursday, April 17, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, will feature leaders from all Section committees. This event will give you the opportunity to enjoy complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and learn what each committee has to offer while networking with Section leaders and Section Annual Conference attendees. ABA Section of Litigation members may join **up to three complimentary committees** during this event or any other time via the [Section website](#). Advance registration is required; however, attendance is complimentary.

The **Evening at the National Portrait Gallery** will take place on Thursday, April 17, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Join your colleagues for an unforgettable night of food, cocktails, and networking at the National Portrait Gallery. You will have the opportunity to view tributes to celebrated leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., artists including Mary Cassatt and George Gershwin, and activists such as Rosa Parks. The building was constructed in 1836 as the U.S. Patent office and was recently renovated. It is one of the nation's finest examples of Greek Revival architecture. This event promises to be one you will not want to miss. All attendees are welcome to attend; tickets are \$95 each.

During the **John Minor Wisdom Awards Luncheon** on Friday, April 18, from 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, the Section will honor the 2008 John Minor Wisdom Public Service and Professionalism Awards. Recipients of the Wisdom Awards have made outstanding contributions to the quality of justice in their communities, ensuring that the legal system is open and available to all. The speaker for the Luncheon is Dana Milbank, The Washington Post columnist. All attendees are welcome to attend; tickets are \$55 each.

Tickets to all events may be purchased online before Friday, March 28. After this date, tickets must be purchased onsite at the registration desk. Please note that our events do sell out. Advanced ticket purchase is recommended.

Speakers Not To Miss

The Section Annual Conference has many excellent speakers. A few of these exceptional speakers include:

- **Linda Chatman Thomsen**
Director, Division of Enforcement, Securities and Exchange Commission
- **Irvin B. Nathan**
General Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives
- **Thomas Miller**
Attorney General, Iowa Office of the Attorney General
- **Barry Scheck**
Innocence Project
- **Stuart Taylor, Jr.**
National Journal

After the Meeting

What can you do after the Section Annual Conference to get the most out of your experience and/or your Section membership? Here are some suggestions:

- Join a committee **online**. Membership in a committee includes a newsletter subscription, access to exclusive online articles and features and advance notice of CLE programs. Committee membership for up to three committees is complimentary for all ABA Section of Litigation members.
- Volunteer to help organize a program in an area of interest to you - you might find yourself on a panel!
- Offer to write a short article on a recent development in your area for a committee newsletter. A list of **committee newsletters** can be found online.
- Find out if a committee in which you have an interest has a stand-alone meeting. If it does, plan to attend the next meeting. You can find the complete listing of committee meetings on the **Section Calendar**.
- Read *Litigation*, the preeminent journal in the field. Published quarterly, *Litigation* covers issues from all perspectives in a lively and readable manner.
- Read *Litigation News Online*. Published six times a year, *Litigation News Online* presents news articles about Section activities, litigation trends and topics of interest to litigators.
- Plan to attend next year's Section Annual Conference in Atlanta, GA and bring a friend or colleague.