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**ISBA PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE  
NABE PEER EXCELLENCE AWARD IN CHICAGO**

Mark Mathewson, director of publications, Illinois State Bar Association, is the 2009 recipient of the NABE Peer Excellence Award. The award recognizes those members who have made a significant contribution to NABE.

As the immediate past chair of the NABE Communications Section, Mark Mathewson has remained actively involved with the section this past year. In addition to serving on the Communications Section Executive Council, Mathewson is a member of the Section's 2009 Annual Workshop Committee, where he is helping to plan the educational sessions and is busy recruiting volunteers to serve as speakers. Mathewson is also an active participant on the NABECOMM list serve, where he utilizes his 21 years of experience in bar publications to assist others in the bar world.

As a lawyer, he is credited for bringing a valuable perspective to a variety of issues important to the bar communications world and is often called upon to write for the Communication Section's e-newsletter, *Communicators Talk*. During the past membership year, Mathewson wrote articles on "*ABAJournal.com – An Interview with Editor Edward A. Adams*" (August 2008), "*The Trouble with President's Pages and How to Fix Them*" (December 2008) and "*Help Me in My Practice: Bar Association Survival in a Downturn Economy*" (March 2009).

Mathewson was described as "a principled bar executive" who is "knowledgeable and well-respected," and who supports NABE by "promoting its value to his colleagues on the staff of the Illinois State Bar Association and other bar executive peers throughout the country." An ISBA colleague said that Mark "combines a lawyer's insightful judgment with the sensibilities required to navigate the often complex issues that arise in bar work and can always be depended on for his calm and thorough analysis of the issues."

Mathewson recently received his Certified Association Executive designation. Awarded by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), the designation is the highest professional credential in the association world.

The Peer Excellence award will be presented at the NABE Annual Meeting Membership Luncheon on Thursday, July 30, 2009 in Chicago.

NABE unites and inspires bar executives in the promotion of excellence in bar association management, as well as professionalism among bar executives through educational programming and other activities that support the effective fulfillment of NABE member's job responsibilities. With a national membership of more than 600 executive directors and professional staff, the association's members represent every discipline and every service that contributes to the success of bar associations nationally. NABE was founded in 1941 and is an affiliate of the American Bar Association.