

PROFILES IN MEMBERSHIP

Orlando Lucero

Hailing from sunny New Mexico, Orlando Lucero has been an active Section member since his first ABA Annual Meeting in 1989. Inspired by Manny Halper's enthusiasm and commitment to mentoring younger lawyers, Orlando became active in the Section's office leasing committees, where he chaired and participated in many CLE programs. He ultimately served as the chair of the Remedies and Miscellaneous Clauses Committee and currently chairs the Brokers and Brokerage Committee. In 2004 Orlando became chair of the Section's Standing Committee on Diversity and group chair for the Group F Committees.

After twenty years in private practice, with a broad real estate transactional practice, in 2003 Orlando joined Stewart Title of Albuquerque as vice president/escrow officer. Orlando believes that his knowledge, experience, and contacts in the legal profession and real estate industry will serve him well in his new career. Orlando credits his involvement with the Section for helping him develop his public speaking skills and his confidence professionally and personally.

Orlando and his wife, BJ, and their daughter, Estrella, are avid cooks and travelers. Estrella has grown up a Section kid having attended most Section Spring and Annual Meetings since she was born. "One of the best things about participating in the Section," says Orlando, "is the chance to visit new places, make new friends, and nurture great friendships."

Besides being involved in Section activities, Orlando is actively involved in many civic and charitable activities in Albuquerque. He just completed his term as president of the New Mexico Chapter of NAIOP, being the first Hispanic president of that organization. At Stewart Title, Orlando is one of the national members of the Advisory Council working to promote home ownership in the Hispanic and other emerging national markets.

Orlando remains committed to helping minorities in the profession and encouraging the greater participation of minorities in the Section. As chair of the Diversity Committee, Orlando hopes to bring an even greater awareness of minority issues to the Section leadership and to continue to develop minority lawyers for positions of leadership in the Section and in the broader legal community. "Minority members of the bar have much to offer and bring a much needed perspective. Failure to bring minorities into active participation in the profession and the Section will be a great loss to both the individual attorneys and to our profession." ■

Edward F. Koren

Even in the company of his nationally recognized peers, Ed Koren is an outstanding example of dedication and hard work. He chairs the more-than-100-lawyer Private Wealth Services Section of Holland & Knight, personally practicing primarily in estate planning and administration matters, life insurance planning, advising owners of closely held businesses, and tax controversies involving transfer taxes and subchapter J. In addition, he is the lead author and editor of the four-volume treatise *Estate and Personal Financial Planning* (West 1988-2004) and an adjunct professor at the University of Miami Graduate Tax Program in Estate Planning. Koren is immediate past-chair of



the Estate and Gift Tax Committee of ACTEC and a Past-Regent. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel and the American Bar Foundation and has served as chair of both the Taxation and Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Sections of The Florida Bar.

Now, as Chair of the Section, Ed can look back at an impressive record of service. "I was proud to represent the Section several years ago in working with and eventually testifying in front of the IRS on the Hubert Regulations and also in having spurred the formation of the Committee Revitalization Task Force, whose recommendations I hope to assure are implemented during my year as Section Chair."

Echoing the sentiments of many of his colleagues, Koren values the personal dividends that result from involvement with the Section. "I now have contacts and friends throughout the country, and we are always engaging in mutual referrals of work between jurisdictions." Participation in the Section's many CLE opportunities, both as an attendee and as a speaker, has also been a great benefit. The national focus of the Section has melded well with the expansion of his firm's practice, and a number of those who have joined his firm over the past years have been attorneys with whom Koren worked in the Section.

Ed's family is particularly involved with horses, and he enjoys riding when he can find the time. They have a small ranch not far from their home, and that has been the focus of activity for his wife, as well as his son and daughter, both of whom are now young adults. ■



A project of the Section's Standing Committee on Membership