BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT

Dan DeCubellis, Board Liaison

At its October 1 meeting, The Florida Bar Board of Governors:

ELECTRONIC SERVICE OF CASE DOCUMENTS

Recommended approval of Rule of Judicial Administration 2.516, dealing with electronic service of case documents. The rule will be filed in the supreme court and there will be a comment period. It will be posted on The Florida Bar's website when the petition is filed.

REDACTION OF COURT FILINGS

Received a report on the New Rule 2.420 Seminar. It was the most downloaded/accessed program on LegalSpan in September. It explains the new rule on what information must be redacted in court filings as of October 1, 2010.

DIVERSITY

Discussed ways to continue to promote diversity in the profession beyond the Bar's new program to encourage local bars to pursue diversity. President Mayanne Downs and President-elect Scott Hawkins said they have talked with sections and committees about bringing in younger and diverse lawyers.

WITNESS FEES

Approved an amendment to Rule 4-3.4, which would allow paying a reasonable fee for someone who is retired for being a witness in a case.

BAR CAMPAIGNING

Voted to temporarily suspend Standing Board Policy 2.20 on campaigning for presidentelect pending later confirmation of qualified candidates and further review of the ground rules for these elections.

BYLAWS

Heard that the Rules Committee is considering an amendment eliminating Bylaw 2-5.2, which allows any Bar member to propose a resolution to be considered at the General Assembly of the Bar's Annual Convention.

BUDGET

Heard a report from the budget committee that the unaudited financial statements for the Bar's fiscal year reflected improvements due in part to fiscally conservative actions by Bar management.

ECONOMY

Heard that in addition to its other efforts, the Program Evaluation Committee is studying what the Bar can do to help members hard hit by the current economic recession.

TRUST ACCOUNT RECORDS AND REPORTING

Heard that the Disciplinary Procedure Committee, in addition to working on forms and instructions to accurately reflect who in the law firm is responsible for properly maintaining trust account records, is considering computer software to help attorneys comply with the rules regulating trust accounts.