

## HEALTH LAW SECTION

**SUBMITTED BY:** Ingrid M. Lundberg

RE: 2007-2008 Annual Report of the ACBA Health Law Section

Dear Mr. Blaner:

It was a privilege and pleasure to serve as Chair of ACBA Health Law Section for 2007-2008. The year passed quickly with our enthusiastic team that included:

Vice Chairman: Christina Gill-Roseman  
Secretary: William P. McCormick  
Treasurer: Jessica A. Ellel

Immediate Past Chairs Beth Anne Jackson and Stella Smetanko continued to provide valuable service to the committee. We met last summer to start program planning and identify goals for the new year. Our one-hour noon meetings were held from September through April on the third Friday of each month. Pizza and salad was provided at the regular meetings with full lunch at the annual meeting. This year we had two excellent CLE programs and six round table programs as follows:

- September Meeting: *Revised Informed Consent Requirements* presented by Alan Steinberg, Esquire;
- October Meeting: *Fundamentals of Disclosure: Policy, Apology and Process* presented by Ann Begler, Esquire;
- November CLE Program: *Healthcare Antitrust Update* presented by Wendy Newton, Esquire;
- December Meeting: *The First Amendment Free Exercise and Free Speech Clauses: Are they violated when health care providers are compelled to act against their religious beliefs or forbidden to speak about their beliefs in the context of providing care?* presented by Pitt's National Health Law Moot Court Competition Teams;
- January Meeting: *Brief Summary of 2007 Health Law Cases* presented by Beth Anne Jackson, Esquire and Heather Bednek, Esquire;
- February Meeting: *The Truth About Medical Liability Reform and Its Impact on the Litigation and Insurance Climate in Pennsylvania* presented by Anna Bemonte Torrance, Esquire of Houston Harbaugh;
- March Meeting: *Single-Payer Health Care Reform Round Table Program* presented by Senator Ferlo and Sandy Fox, Co-Chair of the Western PA Coalition for Single-Payer Health Care Reform;
- April CLE/Annual Meeting: *Careful What You Sign! Observations about a Pending False Claims Act Case* presented by Margaret L. Hutchinson, Esquire of the United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of PA; Paul Skirtich, Esquire of the United States Attorney's Office, Western District of PA; Robert J. Ridge, Esquire of Thorp, Reed & Armstrong, LLP; and William P. McCormick, Esquire as General Counsel for Triad Isotopes, Inc.

**Charitable Contributions:** This year our section increased its donation from \$500 to \$600 for the ACBF's Attorneys Against Hunger Campaign.

**Goals Met for 2007-2008:** The goal from 2006-2007 had been to include one or two meetings that would offer CLE. This goal was met with two CLE programs. Another goal was to increase attendance at our monthly meetings. This goal was met. We provided advance notice of the specific program in the member e-mail notices and published the program title in the ACBA electronic newsletter. We sent an individual e-mail letter in September with our lineup of programs for the next four months and invitation to suggest additional topics. Attendance was also boosted with a joint October meeting with the ADR committee on the topic of apology.

**Goals for 2008-2009:** The Section continues with excellent new officers. When preparing the slate of officers for 2007-2008, there were a number of questions on the role and names of elected council members. A committee chair was appointed to review the bylaws and structure of its council terms before the election at the 2009 annual meeting. The Health Law Committee will continue to work on attendance and quality round table discussions at our meetings.

**New 2007-2008 Officers:** At our Annual Meeting the Health Law Section elected:

Chairman:	William P. McCormick
Vice Chairman:	Jessica A. Ellel
Secretary:	Heather Bednarek
Treasurer:	Amy Dolan Strano

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ingrid M. Lundberg