

REAL PROPERTY SECTION

SUBMITTED BY: Jacqui Fiske Lazo

At the June 2007 Annual Meeting we discussed the City of Pittsburgh's development and revitalization initiatives and the Section formed a task force, the Blight Bar, led by Kim Graziani, Director of Neighborhood Initiatives for Mayor Ravenstahl's office, and Irene McLaughlin, Staff Attorney, Community Economic Development Clinic (CED) at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. The Blight Bar addresses specific real estate questions and issues related to problems with cleaning up title from community groups and non profit organizations. The Blight Bar discussion/initiative is continuing its work.

During this period the section held two CLE courses which were both well attended. The October 2007 CLE was presented by Rebecca Flora, who at the time was the Executive Director of the Green Building Alliance (GBA). This course was approved by the PACLE Board for 1.0 hour of substantive law practice CLE credit. The February 2008 CLE was presented by Marian F. Dietrich and Deborah L. Kutzavitch, attorneys with The Hillman Company, who discussed issues pertaining to property and liability insurance. This course was approved by the PACLE Board for 2.0 hours of substantive law practice CLE credit.

Throughout the year a variety of individuals, including Lucas B. Piatt, Vice President of Millcraft Industries, Inc., Valerie McDonald-Roberts and Sheriff Fersch, with the Allegheny County Department of Real Estate, and attorneys from Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, discussed a range of topics at our section meetings including an update on the Fifth and Market Districts Revitalization Plan in the Pittsburgh Market Square District, an update on the East Liberty Development Projects, Real Estate and Tax Update.