

suggestions from members of Connecticut's conveyancing bar with respect to title matters where the formulation of new standards would be helpful.

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Chapter 30, dealing with common interest communities, was finally approved by the Board of Governors in January 2009. It is anticipated that this new chapter will be available to practitioners in later spring 2009, along with Chapter 29, another recently approved chapter dealing with tax collector deeds. Both of these new chapters address a variety of issues that arise on a regular basis in these two areas of real property law, so it is quite likely that these chapters will see a considerable amount of use in years to come.

The committee has begun work on a new chapter to address title issues encountered in the area of leaseholds, and has also undertaken a review of chapter 27, relating to bankruptcy, in order to have these standards reflect a variety of changes to bankruptcy law that were promulgated subsequent to the original approval of this chapter in 2000. The committee is pleased to acknowledge the able assistance of Attorney Thomas Gugliotti in identifying and drafting the revisions. The revisions to chapter 27 do not require approval by the Board of Governors, so it is anticipated that these revisions will be completed by the end of the current business year, and perhaps be available for distribution simultaneously with Chapters 29 and 30.

The committee is always attentive to requests or suggestions by the bar regarding potential new standards or modifications or corrections to existing ones. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with any such proposals.

Dennis P. Anderson, Milford
Richard J. Beatty, Guilford
Denis R. Caron, Rocky Hill (Chair)
George H. Jackson III, Danielson
James A. Nugent, Orange
Ellen L. Sostman, Rocky Hill
William C. Stokesbury, Farmington
John D. Thomas, East Hartford

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONALISM

LOUIS R. PEPE, CHAIR

PURPOSE

The mission of the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) Standing Committee on Professionalism is to enhance the level of professionalism among lawyers and judges and to promote their commitment to the *Lawyers' Principals of Professionalism* (adopted by the Connecticut Bar Association House of Delegates on June 6, 1994), by: (1) encouraging, recommending, and providing assistance to CBA committees and sections in the development and coordination of professionalism initiatives; (2) encouraging and providing assistance to local bar associations, law schools, and the judiciary in their efforts to improve professionalism; (3) educating members of the legal profession and the public about professionalism issues; and (4) identifying, evaluating, and reporting on trends and developments affecting lawyer professionalism and proposing and implementing programs to address them.

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During the past year, the Standing Committee on Professionalism undertook an exciting new venture when it was invited by The Honorable Chase T. Rogers, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, to assist the Judicial Branch in the implementation of one of the objectives of the Branch's newly adopted Strategic Plan; i.e., enhancing civility and decorum in the courtroom. The joint effort began with the appointment of The Honorable Alexandria DiPentima to the Standing Committee on Professionalism and will continue with the appointment of a trial judge to the standing committee to give it the benefit of that perspective. The Branch and standing committee will cooperate and collaborate on the standing committee's programs, such as its Annual Bench/Bar Professionalism Symposium, its work to introduce professionalism to law students, and its pursuit of a mentoring program for new admittees to the bar.

On a related front, in recognition of the recent undertaking by law schools to include the teaching of professionalism in their curricula, the standing committee invited the law school deans from the four area law schools to a "summit meeting" to discuss how the standing committee might assist with or participate in that effort. The chief justice, recognizing the importance of teaching law students this subject before they even enter the profession, indicated her support of the conference and her intention to attend. The conference will be held this spring or early fall.

Finally, on November 7, 2008, the standing committee once again presented its signature event—the Annual Bench/Bar Professionalism Symposium. This year the program was presented in conjunction with the Hartford County Bar Association and featured a plenary session on major issues affecting professionalism today, the usual breakout discussion sessions for civil, criminal, family, juvenile, probate, and business lawyers, and an inspiring keynote luncheon address by Justice Richard N. Palmer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the standing committee members for their ongoing work to enhance professionalism, and for the full support for that endeavor the Standing Committee has always received from the Judicial Branch.

UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW COMMITTEE

CARL M. PORTO, CHAIR

PURPOSE

The Unauthorized Practice of Law (UPL) Committee continues to receive inquires, complaints, and requests for information regarding what constitutes the authorized practice of law in the State of Connecticut. As previously indicated, when appropriate, the committee issues written "informal opinions," which are now available on the CBA Web site.

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Now that the Definition of the Practice of Law (Superior Court Rules, Chapter 2, Section 2-44a), the Authorized House Counsel Rule (Superior Court Rules, Chapter 2, Section 2-15a) and a modified version of Section 5.5 of the Rules of Professional Conduct (multijurisdictional practice) have been adopted, one focus of the committee has been the various proposed amendments to Section 51-88 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which concerns itself with the unauthorized practice of law in Connecticut. There have been several proposed bills to amend the statute. Most of these contain a provision that elevates the unauthorized practice of law to a felony, as opposed to the current misdemeanor penalty for a violation of the statute. There are also other proposed changes to the statute, which are currently subject to judicial and