

**Minutes of the Federal Practice Section**  
**November 15, 2006**

In attendance were Ethan Levin-Epstein and Jon Tropp (co-chairs); Hon. Robert N. Chatigny, Hon. Janet C. Hall, Hon. Alvin W. Thompson, Hon. Ellen Bree Burns; Hon. Holly B. Fitzsimmons; US Atty. Kevin J. O'Connor, Heidi Alexander, David Atkins, Jeffrey R. Babbin, David Belt, Anne Blanchard, Andrew Bowman, Fran Brady, Jacqueline D. Bucar, Anthony D. Collins, Peter Costas, Hugh W. Cuthbertson, Anthony DeLio, Willie Dow, Jon Einhorn, Michael F. Ewing, Sean M. Fisher, Paul N. Gilmore, Charles C. Goetsch, Jeff Hellman, Carolyn A. Ikari, Stuart C. Johnson, Patrick A. Klingman, Paul E. Knag, Carolyn R. Linsey, Nancy Martin, Pat McHugh, Jennifer Mellon, Francis L. O'Reilly, Nancy Kase Obrasky, Robert Oliver, Chris Perry, Renee Redman, Steven C. Rickman, Christopher Rooney, David Rosen, Mark D. Rubino, David Schaefer, Jon Schoenhorn, Victoria S. Shin, Frank Silvestri, James Stapleton, Stan Twardy, Talbot Wells, Catherine L. Williams

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Quinnipiack Club in New Haven, CT. Co-Chair Ethan Levin-Epstein presided.

1. Committee Reports:

On behalf of the Civil Practice, Local Rules and Professional Standards Committee, in Elizabeth Stewart's stead, Jon Tropp reported that the Section had recently forwarded proposed revisions to the local rules addressing e-discovery and e-filing to Judge Kravitz for consideration by the Court. Jon also reported that the Court has released for comment a proposed change to Local Rule 83.5 dealing with juror communications, and that the proposed rule is available on the CBA website.

On behalf of the Education and Programs Committee, David Atkins invited members to submit ideas for a CLE program and for a program at the CBA Annual Meeting. A meeting of the Education and Programs Committee will be scheduled shortly, and members interested in participating in the activities of this Committee are encouraged to contact David.

On behalf of the Newsletter Committee, in Tim Diemand's stead, Jon Tropp solicited items for the newsletter to be sent to Tim.

On behalf of an ad hoc committee formed for this purpose, and in connection with the work of the Legislative Information Committee, Peter Costas discussed a draft letter that had been prepared concerning a bill pending before Congress to establish an inspector general of the federal courts. A copy of the draft letter, attached, was circulated to those in attendance, and discussion was invited.

No reports were received from the Criminal Practice or Court of Appeals committees.

Treasurer Jeff Hellman reported that the Section's financial condition is sound.

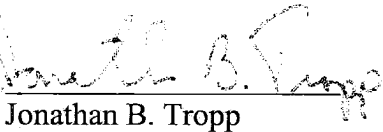
2. Jon Tropp made a final report on the recent Bench-Bar Conference at St. Clements Castle. Over 200 people registered to attend, and the Section invested approximately \$3100 (net of revenues received) in the event. Planning for the 2008 Bench-Bar Conference will begin in the Spring.

3. No items of New Business were identified from the floor.

4. Stan Twardy moderated an excellent discussion of the Patriot Act by U.S. Attorney Kevin O'Connor and Renee Redman of the ACLU of Connecticut. Both panelists entertained questions from the floor. At the close of the panel discussion, on behalf of the Section, Ethan Levin-Epstein thanked the moderator and both panelists.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan B. Tropp