

## **WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION 2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

2004 Section Activities:

### 1. Executive Committee Meetings

Monthly Section Executive Committee meetings were held, with the exception of June 2004 due to a lack of a quorum. Minutes of each meeting have been submitted to the Bar in accordance with the Section Bylaws. The Minutes were taken by Martin Alvey, Secretary, and can be accessed on the Section's Website.

### 2. Annual Meeting

The Section's 22nd Annual Meeting was held on May 14, 2004 at the Salishan Lodge at Gleneden Beach, Oregon. The meeting is coupled with a two-day CLE, which was held on May 14 and 15. This CLE was, as usual, very well-attended by both sides of the bar, judges and Board members. The CLE was approved for 6.75 MCLE credits (including 1 ethics credit). The program included various legal and medical speakers covering topics relevant to practitioners on both sides of the Bar.

### 3. Bench/Bar CLE

The Section also sponsored a Bench/Bar Ethics CLE on November 12, 2004. The CLE was at the Willamette Valley Vineyards in Salem, Oregon. The conference covered three hours of discussion regarding various topics involving ethics, including behavior in depositions, ethics at the Board, and ethics in everyday situations. The seminar was very well attended and was approved for 2.25 ethics and .75 general credits. This seminar, which included lunch, was provided free of charge to members.

### 4. Executive Committee Officers and Members for 2005

At the 204 Annual Meeting, the section membership elected officers and executive committee members for 2005.

Officers for 2005:

ALJ Abigail Herman, Chair  
Martin Alvey, Chair Elect  
Linh Vu, Secretary  
Matthew Roy, Treasurer  
Rodger Hepburn, Past Chair

Committee Members:

ALJ Jill Riechers  
Julie Masters

Shelley Edling  
Dean Lederer  
Mark Thesing  
Meg Carmen  
ALJ Keith Kekauoha  
Charles Mundorff  
Holly Somers  
Art Stevens  
Debra Ehrman

#### 5. Executive Standing Committees:

Legislative  
Rules  
Professionalism  
Race/ethnic  
Salishan CLE  
Communications  
Daughtry Award

These committees met on an as needed basis throughout 2004.

#### 2005 Section Activities

1. The Executive Committee will continue with monthly meetings held in accordance with the Section Bylaws.
2. The standing committees will continue to meet on an as needed basis to function with the following general goals:

Legislative: Monitor proposed and potential legislation, advise the committee regarding the advisability of proposed legislation, and review current workers' compensation laws to keep the committee apprised of new developments.

Rules: Monitor proposed and potential rules under the Board and Department; advise the committee regarding the advisability of proposed rules; and review the current rules of the Board and the Department in consideration of suggestions for the improvement of current rules.

Professionalism: Advance the interests of section members by sponsoring seminars and programs dealing with professionalism and ethics; consider means by which the Section can improve relations between the membership and those providing services to injured workers and employers, clients and members of the public. The goal for 2005 is to put on either one or two Bench/Bar ethics CLEs. Given the success of the November

12, 2004 program, the plan is to put on at least one program next year at Willamette Valley Vineyards. Matthew Roy and Sandra Haynes are being looked to as the primary facilitators/planners for next years' Bench/Bar CLEs.

Race/Ethnic: Identify means by which the Section can facilitate the use of the workers' compensation forum by practitioners and members of the public; Educate lawyers, judges and those providing services to injured workers and employers regarding the potential impact of cultural differences upon use of the workers' compensation system.

Salishan/CLE: Plan and coordinate the annual section business meeting and CLE. The section voted to hold the 2005 annual meeting/CLE at Salishan Lodge. Betsy Wosko has agreed to chair the subcommittee and the committee is already in the process of planning the 2005 event.

Communications: Monitor the development and production of the Section Website, the Section Newsletter, and continue efforts in getting relevant practice information to all section members. The committee is looking into sending out a high quality section newsletter on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Daughtry: This committee is made of the most recent three past chairs and meets to make recommendations to the full committee on the merit of nominations for the award. This committee will begin meeting in January 2005 to start accepting nominations and making recommendations to the full committee for the award, which, if given, will be presented at Salishan 2005.

3. Proposed Legislative Changes: None at this time.

4. Proposed Rule Changes: None at this time.

2005 Budget:

The 2005 Section budget was approved by the committee at the November 12, 2004 meeting and the Section Treasurer, Debra Ehrman, has submitted her report along with the Budget directly to the Board of Governor's Budget and Finance Committee for its approval.