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2008

2008-08-22 H. Thomas Wells, Jr. ABA Presidential Correspondence

H. Thomas Wells Jr.

University of Alabama School of Law

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CORRESPONDENCE LOG

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.

August 22, 2008

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Rcvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
AL	Kevin P. Durkin Chicago, IL Ltr – congratulations on the great honor of becoming ABA President	8/14	8/18	NRN	<i>brief response sent</i>
AL	Robert N. Weiner Washington, DC Note – congratulations on great inaugural speech	8/15	8/19	NRN	
AL	Jerold S. Solovy Jenner & Block, Chicago, IL Ltr – sent article about TW from <i>Chicago Daily Law Bulletin</i> ; please call upon friends at Jenner & Block if we can be of assistance	8/15	8/19	NRN	<i>brief response sent</i>
AL	M. Catherine Richardson Note – best wishes for a successful tenure	8/13	8/19	NRN	
AL	Mary Toner Note – thanks for invitation to reception on Sunday evening at Gotham Hall	8/13	8/21	NRN	
AL	Randall Deane Noel Note – had a grand time at reception at Gotham Hall		8/21	NRN	
AL	Robert H. Henry, Chief Judge US Court of Appeals – Tenth Circuit Oklahoma City, OK Ltr – congratulations on election as ABA President; looks forward to working with TW and staff over the next year	8/18	8/19	NRN	
AL	Graham C. Grady ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund Ltr – thanks for support to LOSF and requests help; contribution form enclosed	8/20	8/25	NRN	

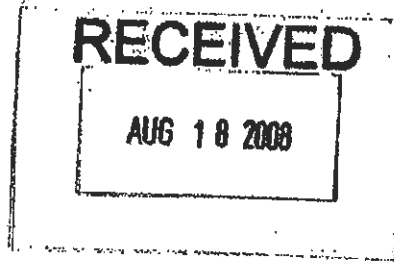
CORRESPONDENCE LOG

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.

August 22, 2008

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Rcvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
AL	Sue Bell Cobb, Chief Justice Supreme Court of Alabama Ltr – congratulations on being elected ABA president; asks TW to plan to speak at the Alabama State Bar Convention Winter Conference in 2010	8/18	8/21	<i>NRN</i>	Lanita Thomas
IL	Robert A. Fairfield Torrance, CA Ltr – considers cancelling ABA membership	8/14	8/19	<i>Forwarded to Diane Bruhl</i>	
AL	Leo J. Jordan West Orange, NJ Ltr – re the 70 th anniversary dinner for <i>Erie v. Tompkins</i> , Sept. 20, 2008, New York City	8/21	8/25	<i>Ira sent email advising that ABA is not sending a formal contingent; TW regrets not being able to attend</i>	

Kevin P. Durkin
120 North La Salle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602



August 14, 2008

Mr. H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
Maynard, Cooper & Gale, PC
2400 AmSouth Harbert Plaza
1901 6th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

Tommy:

Congratulations on the great honor of becoming ABA President. It is certainly a deserving honor. I am sorry I could not make it to the meeting in New York. My oldest just graduated high school this year and is going on to college this week and we had some family events because of it that created a conflict. I do hear you are going to be in London in October and I am looking forward to seeing you there. The *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* had a nice article in yesterday's paper regarding you and I have enclosed a copy.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Kevin P. Durkin".

KEVIN P. DURKIN

KPD/jmg

ROBERT N. WEINER
555 TWELFTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1206

RECEIVED

AUG 19 2008

August 13, 2008

Dear Tommy,

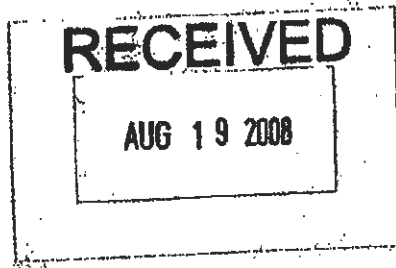
I wanted to congratulate you again on a great inaugural speech. You struck just the right tone, and, I think, moved the delegates to action.

I'm looking forward to a terrific year with you at the helm, and stand ready to help in any way you need. Appointments, etc. are not necessary - just let me know how I can be of assistance.

Congrats again.

RR

JEROLD S. SOLOVY
Chairman Emeritus of the Firm



JENNER & BLOCK

Jenner & Block LLP
830 N. Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611-7608
Tel 312 222-9350
www.jenner.com

Chicago
New York
Washington, DC

August 15, 2008

Tel 312 923-2671
Fax 312 840-7671
jsolovy@jenner.com

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esq.
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
1901 Sixth Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear Tommy:

I was in New York all week and just returned to the office this morning. I found this lovely article about you in the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*. I am sure you received many copies, but I am sending this one along just in case. It's very singular that two lawyers from the same law firm would become President of the ABA, but considering the two lawyers involved, it's most fitting and appropriate.

Thanks for everything you and Lee do for the good of our profession and the organized bar. If your friends at Jenner & Block can be of any assistance to you as you discharge your important duties during your term of office, I hope you will not hesitate to call upon us.

Best regards,

Jerold S. Solovy

JSS/js

cc: N. Lee Cooper, Esq.

RECEIVED

AUG 19 2008

M. Catherine Richardson

August 13, 2008

Tommy —

Best wishes for a very
successful tenure. We know
you will be great. And I
am so proud to call you
my President.

Best
Catherine

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2008

August 13

Dear Tommy,

Thank you so much for your kind invitation to your Reception on Sunday evening at Gotham Hall. I enjoyed the reception, and visiting with your cousin!

I look forward to your leadership this upcoming year, and to a stronger partnership with NCBP.

Thanks again.

Respectfully,
Clay Toner

RECEIVED

AUG 21 2008

RANDALL DEANE NOEL

Dear Jimmy,

What a grand time Tessa and I had at the Maynard Cooper event in your honor at the fabulous Gotham Mall. The food and beverages - not to mention the great camaraderie - were just what the doctor ordered as a respite from the rigors of the ABA meetings.

Thank you for inviting us, and a

special thanks to your partners for hosting such a grand event. I felt duty bound to eat and drink the shares of your partners who had misfortune with their flights!

You are off to a great start My President. I'm pleased to be among your supporters.

Thanks again,

Randy

United States Court of Appeals
Tenth Circuit
200 N.W. Fourth Street, Room 2421
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

RECEIVED

AUG 19 2008

Robert H. Henry
Chief Judge

August 18, 2008

Telephone
(405) 609-5448
Fax
(405) 609-5449

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., President
American Bar Association
c/o Maynard Cooper & Gale, P.C.
1901 Sixth Avenue North
2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear President Wells:

Congratulations on your election as the American Bar Association's President for the 2007-2008 term. I have just returned from New York City, where I was impressed by the ABA's programming. The Rule of Law Initiative Luncheon was especially inspirational. As a ROLI Board member, and as Chair of the Middle East North Africa Council, I look forward to working with you and your staff over the next year.

I realize that the ABA Board of Governors faces a variety of challenges, but I also hope that we have time to meet at your convenience, and perhaps you might join us for part of a MENA Council meeting or related event. As you know, MENA is the newest Council, focused on perhaps the most challenging region. We are helped enormously by our exceedingly qualified Council members. I want to personally thank you for offering the position of first Special Adviser to the Middle East/North Africa Council of the American Bar Association to Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa. Should she accept, it will add a remarkable figure from the region to our cause.

Since its inception in July 2003, the MENA program has established offices in nine countries of the region and currently maintains offices in seven. The program will expand to eleven countries in Fall 2008.

- To date, the MENA program has been awarded forty-one grants worth \$36.5 million from donors.
- Supported development of the first codes of judicial conduct in the MENA in partnership with the judiciaries of Jordan, Bahrain, and Morocco. Established the first law faculty-student legal aid clinic in Morocco and the first comprehensive clinical education program in Lebanon.

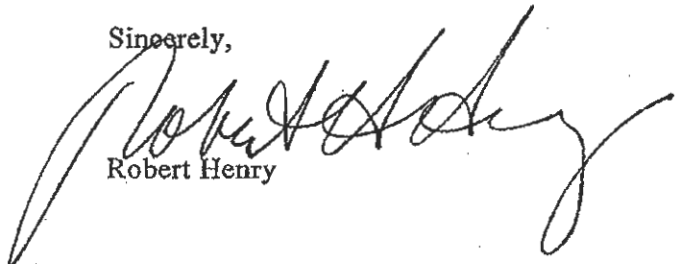
H. Thomas Wells, Jr., President
August 18, 2008
Page 2

- Joined with the Ministers of Justice of Bahrain and Jordan and legal leaders from throughout the region to establish the Arab Council for Judicial and Legal Studies, the first regional entity to bring government and NGOs together to advance judicial independence and development in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Established a regional professional organization for women lawyers, the Arab Women's Legal Network.
- Supported the establishment of court administered mediation in Jordan.
- Established the first national moot court competition in Jordan.
- The ABA has also introduced several new systems and approaches to legal institutions in the region, ranging from the introduction of practical skills training in law faculties in order to produce more skilled law graduates, to the development of e-learning courses for the judicial institutes in Jordan, Morocco, Bahrain, and Algeria.

Again, my work is facilitated by the wonderful ABA staff, including Rob Boone and Angela Conway. I look forward to working with you over the next year.

Please also find enclosed a small token from the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals that I hope you find to be of some use.

Sincerely,


Robert Henry

RH:cls

Should you have a spare moment in Denver I would love to give you a tour of our historic Courthouse.

ABA LEGAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND



2007-2008
LOSF Fundraising Committee

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New York, NY 10019-5849
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silkenat.james@arentfox.com

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kauperk@staff.abanet.org

American Bar Association
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Chicago, IL 60654
800.285.2221

August 20, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
Suite 2400
1901 6th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

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AUG 25 2008

Re: ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund

Dear Mr. Wells:

Thank you very much for granting me a few minutes on the agenda of the ABA Minority Caucus meeting on Sunday, August 10, 2008, during the Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in order to share news about, and engender your continued support for, the ABA Legal Opportunity Scholarship Fund. As you know, the ABA annually awards 20 scholarships to minority law students from all around the country. Since its inception in 2000, the Fund has awarded 180 scholarships to students from 34 States, who have attended 57 U.S. law schools. These outstanding students are selected from the 1200 to 1500 applications received each year.

I write on this occasion to thank you once again for your support of the Scholarship Fund and ask for your help in three specific ways, as follows: (1) to ask your practice area Section or Division (e.g., TIPs or YLD) to donate funds to the Fund; (2) to ask your law firm, corporation or employer to donate to the Fund; and (3) to make a personal, tax-deductible donation in support of the Fund. A copy of a contribution form is enclosed.

In addition to numerous contributions from lawyers and other individuals, we are pleased to report the following recent gifts to the Scholarship Fund:

Real Property Section:	\$50,000
Litigation Section:	\$20,000
International Law Section:	\$15,000
Tax Section:	\$ 5,000
Criminal Justice Section:	\$ 2,500
Health Law Section:	\$ 1,000

Enclosed please find a brochure that summarizes the Scholarship Fund and the diverse law students it supports.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments. I very much appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Graham C. Grady

Enclosures



SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA
 HEFLIN-TORBERT JUDICIAL BUILDING
 300 DEXTER AVENUE
 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104-3741
 (334) 228-0700

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AUG 21 2008

CHIEF JUSTICE
 SUE BELL COBB, OF EVERGREEN

ASSOCIATE JUSTICES
 HAROLD SEE, OF NORTHPORT
 CHAMP LYONS, JR., OF POINT CLEAR
 THOMAS A. WOODALL, OF BIRMINGHAM
 LYN STUART, OF BAY MINETTE
 PATRICIA M. SMITH, OF INDIAN SPRINGS
 MICHAEL F. BOLIN, OF BIRMINGHAM
 TOM PARKER, OF MONTGOMERY
 GLENN MURDOCK, OF BIRMINGHAM

August 18, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr. Esq.
 1901 Sixth Avenue North
 2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza
 Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Mr. Wells:

On behalf of the Supreme Court of Alabama and the Unified Judicial System, congratulations on being elected as president-elect of the American Bar Association. The ABA made a wise choice in selecting its next president. I know you will make Alabama and her legal community proud!

I am disappointed that my schedule would not permit me to attend my first American Bar Association meeting. Obviously, I would have liked for this convention to be my first because I would be present to witness the third Alabamian being inducted as president. I am really sorry I could not be there.

Your duties and responsibilities as ABA president will be taxing but very rewarding. If I ever may be of assistance during your term, please do not hesitate to call on me.

I enjoyed spending time with you at the Alabama State Bar Convention. Your speech at the convention was outstanding. Because your calendar for this next twelve months is unimaginable, I want you to plan to speak at our Winter Conference in 2010. Your message is one that our trial judges need to hear.

Again, congratulations on being elected ABA president. With kindest regards, I am,

Most Sincerely,

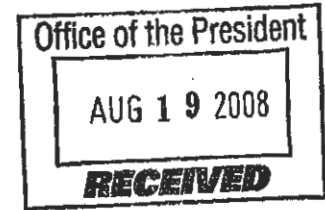
Sue Bell Cobb
 Chief Justice

SBC/sm

Robert A. Fairfield

Attorney At Law
21515 Hawthorne Boulevard
Suite 820
Torrance, California 90503-6521

Tel - (310) 944-6428
Fax - (310) 944-6438



August 14, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
President
American Bar Association
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654-7598

Re: Membership of Robert A. Fairfield

Dear Mr. Wells:

I have been a member of the American Bar Association, twice, with a break in membership when I felt the ABA was wrong in taking a position on purely social issues. I am considering another break in membership because of three recent incidents.

I am a member of my local bar association, and they claim that my membership allows me to receive a discount on products sold by the ABA. I tried to purchase a book on line on military issues in family law, and I attempted to apply for my discount. I could not get it to work. Per the instructions when having difficulty, I called the telephone number for the ABA. I received a recorded message and left the information requested. Although promised, I never received the telephone call. Finally, I ordered the book without the discount I felt I was entitled to receive.

I discovered that the ABA started a program regarding Domestic Violence and I thought it was looking for volunteers. I provided the information that was requested, but I never heard anything further.

I discovered that the ABA was looking for volunteers to assist military personnel with family law issues. I signed up for this, too. I never heard anything further.

I do provide pro bono legal help through local legal agencies. It seems to me my money could be better used donating to these organizations instead of paying dues to the American Bar Association. I realize the loss of my membership is not a significant financial event to the ABA. I also realize that you can not make everyone happy all of the time. I realize that decisions are based on a cost to benefit ratio, and the cost of trying to please me is not worth the benefit of my membership money.

If nothing else, I feel much better having written this letter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Fairfield". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert A. Fairfield

Leo J. Jordan
Attorney At Law
Arbitration and Mediation

50 Whalen Court
West Orange, NJ 07052

Admitted in N.Y., MD., TX., IL.

August 21, 2008

Telephone: (973) 669-5686

Fax: (973) 669-8392

E-Mail: leoJordan@comcast.net

H. Thomas Wells, Esq.
Maynard Cooper & Gale
Ste 2400
1901 Sixth Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

Re. *Erie Railroad Company v. Tompkins*—70th. Anniversary
Saturday, September 20 2008 New York City

Dear Tommy:

We spoke briefly during the House of Delegates Meeting about this upcoming dinner in New York. I was born and raised in Luzerne County, PA and lived very near the scene of the railroad accident (I was not a witness), I wrote a paper on this subject while still in high school and, to some extent, I suppose it fostered an interest in law. While up in Pennsylvania visiting family recently I learned about this September event and it has piqued my interest.

I then wrote to Susan Nolte of TIPS asking her to check out the ABA involvement and she sent me the enclosed correspondence. I am not aware whether there are any plans to send an ABA contingent to the dinner. If possible, I would like to be among that group. I would be pleased to do this at my own expense. I am almost quite familiar with the listed officers of the Luzerne County Bar; however, I have not discussed this mater with them. Will you please let me know if there is some way in which I might either represent the ABA or be part of an ABA group planning to attend?

I am sending a copy of this letter to the ABA Chicago Office so your staff will be aware of this request. Thank you.

With best wishes,


Leo J. Jordan

Copies: Henry F. White, Esq., Executive Director
Timothy W. Bouch, Esq.
Susan Nolte, TIPS Staff Director

