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2008-09-12 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.

September 12, 2008

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Recvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
IL	Ricardo M. Urbina US District Court for the Dist. of Columbia Note – pleased to accept appointment to the SpC on Bioethics and the Law; looking forward to meeting and working with TW	-	9/2	NRN	
AL	Nigel Roberts LexisNexis Ltr – thanks for joining them for lunch and discussion at their offices	8/25	9/2	NRN	
AL	William P. Frank New York, NY Ltr – congratulations upon elevation as ABA President	8/28	9/4	NRN	
AL	Nancy Sorak New Orleans, LA Note – thanks for invite to a wonderful reception at Gotham Hall	8/25	9/4	NRN	
AL	Harry Benjamin Note – thanks for coming to Kiwanis meeting	-	9/4	NRN	
AL	W. Stancil Starnes Birmingham, AL Ltr – congratulations on becoming ABA President	9/5	9/8	NRN	
AL	R. William Pradat, Jr. President, Kiwanis Club of Birmingham Ltr – thanks for speaking at Kiwanis Club meeting	9/3	9/8	NRN	
AL	Lance Liebman, Director The American Law Institute Ltr – the President of the ABA is an ex officio member of the ALI during his term of office; next annual meeting will be 5/18/09 (copy emailed to Lanita Thomas)	9/3	9/8	NRN	

CORRESPONDENCE LOG

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.

September 12, 2008

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Rcvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
AL	George R. Harper, First Vice President IABA Ltr – pleased to have met TW at the Canadian Bar Assn meeting	8/26	9/8	<i>NRN</i>	Kash Sullivan
A L email	Ramona E. Romero, President Hispanic National Bar Association (Ramona.E.Romero@USA.dupont.com) Ltr – thanks for attending HNBA annual meeting in Los Angeles	8/25	8/25	<i>TW sent email response 9/8/08</i>	
AL	Manuel A. Capsalis, President Virginia State Bar Ltr – congratulations on assuming presidency of ABA; interested in TW's focus on diversity and diversity summit in 2009	8/29	9/9	<i>Ira forwarded to Cie Armstead on 9/10/08</i>	
AL	James D. Rogers, Judge-Retired Minnetonka, MN State of Minnesota Fourth Judicial District Court Ltr – pleased that TW agenda includes voting rights for military personnel	9/8	9/11	<i>FYI - Elizabeth Yang</i>	
AL	Laurel G. Bellows Immediate Past Chair – HOD Ltr – thanks for advice, support and friendship	9/9	9/12	<i>NRN</i>	
IL	Richard F. Flickinger Ligonier, PA	8/26	9/2	<i>Forwarded to Cie Armstead for possible response</i>	
IL	Evangeline M. Mitchell, Esq. National Black Pre-Law Conference & Law Fair Ltr – requests letter of support for souvenir program book for the Fourth National Black Pre-Law Admissions & Preparation Conference and Law Fair 2008 to be held October 10, 2008	8/25	9/3	<i>NRN</i>	



Ricardo M. Urbina
United States District Judge
(202) 334-3300

United States District Court
for the District of Columbia
Washington, D.C. 20004

Office of the President
SEP 2 - 2008
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Dear Mr. Wells

I am pleased to accept the appointment to the Special Committee on Bioethics and the Law for a one-year term.

Looking forward to meeting & working with you all.

Ricardo

Office of the President
SEP 2 - 2008
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SEP 2 2008

August 25, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
2400 RegionsHarbert Plaza
1901 6th Ave. N, Suite 2400
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

Dear Tommy:

With the ABA 2008 Annual Meeting now behind us, we wanted to thank you for joining us for lunch and discussion at our offices. We found the discussion helpful and interesting, and hope you enjoyed your visit.

We truly value our relationship with the American Bar Association, and are proud of our long history of partnering with the Association on many different initiatives.

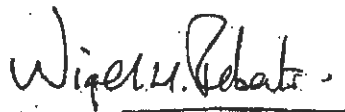
We look forward to continuing our support, helping the Association in whatever way we can, and exploring future opportunities to connect the leadership of our respective organizations.

Congratulations on your appointment as President of the American Bar Association and have a wonderful year!

Best Regards,



Barbara Cooperman



Nigel Roberts

P.S. As you recall, the topic of LexisNexis t-shirts came up—enclosed are t-shirts for your enjoyment!



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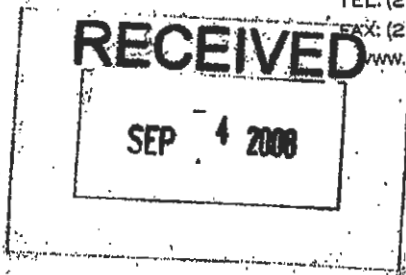
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WFRANK@SKADDEN.COM



August 28, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Esq.
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
1901 Sixth Avenue North
2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Tommy:

My belated congratulations to you upon your elevation as ABA President. It was appropriate that it was done in the City of New York.

My best to you during your tenure. I know you will be very busy this year, but should you have a few minutes in New York, would love to catch up after more than a few years having past since we last met.

Again, all the best.

Sincerely,

William P. Frank

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SEP 4 2008



NBS

August 25, 2008

Dear Tom & Jan,

Thank you so much for including me among the fortunate few? who were lucky enough to attend your wonderful reception at Gatham Hall. It was magnificent! The food was divine & the venue perfect. It was the event of the ABA in Nye. Quite the wonderful way to begin a new tenure to lead a wonderful time. Perhaps our paths will cross again as no one can resist the charms of New Orleans indefinitely. Till then...

Sincerely
Nancy

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SEP 4 2008

HB

Mr Wells

Tuesday

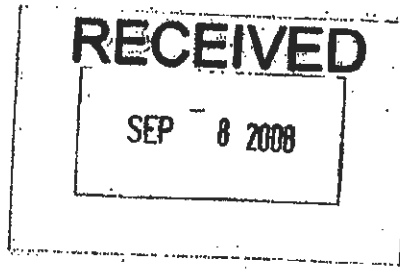
Thank you for coming to Kivorio today, your talk was most informative and interesting. I recognize the immense effort of time and energy that you are expending. Birmingham and Alabama are beneficiaries.

Thanks.

Harry Benjamin

HARRY BENJAMIN

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W. Stancil Starnes
Chief Executive Officer

Direct 205/877-4401
Fax 205/877-4405
sstarnes@ProAssurance.com

September 5, 2008

Mr. Tommy Wells
Maynard, Cooper and Gale, P.C.
1901 6th Avenue North
Suite 2400
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

Dear Tommy:

I regret that my schedule prevented me from hearing your presentation to the Kiwanis Club on Tuesday. I know you did a terrific job.

Congratulations on becoming President of the American Bar Association. This is well deserved recognition and I know you will do great things for the profession.

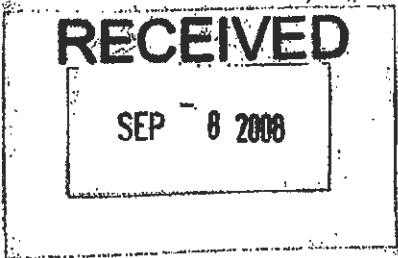
Best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "W. Stancil Starnes".

W. Stancil Starnes

WSS:tmb



September 3, 2008

Via United States Mail

Mr. Tommy Wells
Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.
1901 6th Avenue North
Suite 2400
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear Tommy:

Thank you for speaking to the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham on Tuesday. Our members really enjoyed hearing about your role as President of the American Bar Association, as well as future ABA initiatives.

We wish you continued growth and success. Best of luck to you, Maynard Cooper & Gale and the American Bar Association.

Warmest personal regards,

R. William Pradat, Jr.
President, Kiwanis Club of Birmingham

RWP:dhw

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Kiwanis Club of Birmingham • 2019 4th Avenue North • Birmingham, AL 35203
PHONE 205-251-0032 / EMAIL kiwanis99@aol.com / FAX 205-251-2841

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Lance Liebman
Director

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SEP 8 2008

September 3, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esquire
President, American Bar Association
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
1901 6th Ave N Ste 2400
AmSouth/Harbert Plaza
Birmingham, AL 35203-4604

Dear Mr. Wells:

I am delighted to tell you that the President of the American Bar Association is an ex officio member of the American Law Institute during his or her term of office. This, of course, is in addition to your elected membership status.

* Our next Annual Meeting will be held at The Mayflower hotel in Washington, D.C. on May 18-20, 2009, and all of us at the Institute hope very much that you will be able to attend. You can expect to receive the formal invitation and program in early April.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Lance Liebman



INTER-AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
FEDERACIÓN INTERAMERICANA DE ABOGADOS
FEDERAÇÃO INTERAMERICANA DE ADVOGADOS
FÉDÉRATION INTERAMÉRICAINÉ DES AVOCATS

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SEP 8 2008

1211 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 202, Washington, D.C. 20036 Phone (202) 466-5944 Fax (202) 466-5946

Email: iba@iba.org

Jorge G. De Pésno Arízpe
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USA
First Vice President

Mariana C. Cordier
USA
Secretary General

Antonio García Noriega
Spain
Assistant Secretary General

August 26, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esq.
Maynard Cooper & Gale, PC
1901 Sixth Avenue North
2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza
Birmingham, AL 35203

Dear Tommy:

I am writing to express my pleasure at having met you during the recent Canadian Bar Association meeting in beautiful Quebec City. In my opinion the CBA should be quite proud of such an excellent and well-planned conference. To my eye, at least, everything went off like clockwork.

We of the Inter-American Bar Association are quite proud of our relationships with both the CBA and the ABA, and are interested in strengthening the ties between us. To give you some feel for our organization, and what we're all about, a brief history might be of interest:

In the years prior to World War II, an increasingly larger number of concerned lawyers became conscious of the importance of the Rule of Law to the protection of democratic institutions of the Western Hemisphere. This group believed that development of closer relations among all of the nations of the Western Hemisphere was a necessary step to promote not only the Rule of Law, but the best interests of the legal profession. It became apparent that, in order to achieve these objectives, a permanent, independent and professional forum for the exchange of professional views and information would be required. The Inter-American Bar Association was founded to fill this need. The Association was established on May 16, 1940 in Washington, D.C., by a group of distinguished lawyers and jurists representing forty-four professional organizations from seventeen nations of the Western Hemisphere. Its first plenary convention was held in Havana, Cuba, in 1941. Its XLV convention will be held in Nassau, Bahamas in June of 2009. We expect a number of ABA members to be there, and we earnestly hope you can join us.



Today the IABA members include attorneys, judges, bar associations, law faculties and law professors from throughout North, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and the Iberian peninsula. A majority of our members live and practice in Latin America. We take seriously our mission of providing a permanent forum for issues such as advancing the Rule of Law and the administration of justice, preserving and defending human rights and liberties, and promoting the free exercise of civil and political rights under democratic principles for the peoples of the Americas. Recent examples of our work include:

(a) Adopting the first unanimous resolution relating to the recent rescue of Ingrid Betancourt and fourteen other FARC hostages. Our resolution worked its way up through Colombian government channels and wound up on President Uribe's desk, eliciting from him a note of appreciation.

(b) In response to an appeal for assistance in connection with the involuntary removal by the Supreme Court of Venezuela, on direct orders from Chavez, of the duly elected officers of the Caracas Bar Association, and the dissolution of the Federation of Bar Associations of Venezuela, the September 2008 meeting of the IABA Executive Committee will be held in Caracas and will include a series of hearings leading up to a report which will be widely disseminated. Participants in the hearings will include the presidents of each of the twenty-four Bar Associations in Venezuela; the president of the Venezuelan Institute for Social Security; the Confederation of Professionals of Venezuela; and the presidents of several other professional associations (engineers, physicians, and public accountants, among others).

President Jorge de Presno and I will be discussing ways in which the IABA and the ABA can work together to fulfill our mutual goals. In the meantime, I look forward to staying in touch. If you are ever in Miami be sure to give me a call, and I'd be delighted to buy you lunch.

With best regards,



George

Harper Meyer Perez Ferrer & Hagen LLP
701 Brickell Avenue
Suite 1400
Miami, FL 33131
305-577-3443

cc Jorge de Presno, President, Inter-American Bar Association

Mastronardi, Kay

From: Pilchen, Ira
Sent: Monday, September 08, 2008 9:46 AM
To: Potter, Megan; Mastronardi, Kay
Subject: FW: Greetings

Probably a good idea to include Ramona's original note and Tommy's reply in the correspondence log. Thanks.

Ira

From: Tommy Wells [mailto:WELLST@maynardcooper.com]
Sent: Monday, September 08, 2008 9:42 AM
To: Ramona E Romero
Cc: Pilchen, Ira
Subject: Re: Greetings

Ramona,
It was great to see you again at the HNBA meeting. Thank you for the warm hospitality I received while there. I look forward to working with you this year.
Regards,
Tommy

Tommy Wells
Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.
Direct 205.254.1062
Fax 205.254.1999
www.maynardcooper.com



>>> Ramona E Romero <Ramona.E.Romero@USA.dupont.com> 8/25/2008 11:24 AM >>>

Dear Tommy:

I hope you are well and enjoying the first month of your ABA Presidency. I went to the ABA Annual Meeting for a couple of days, but family obligations precluded me from participating in the evening festivities.

I am writing for two reasons. First, I want to thank you for making time to attend the HNBA's Annual Convention in Los Angeles. I appreciate the enormous demands on your schedule, and I am delighted and grateful to you for joining us. I look forward to your remarks at our diversity luncheon on Thursday.

Second, as you know, I will be sworn in as HNBA President at this Convention (at the Gala on Saturday night). If your plans in Los Angeles allow, I would love to spend some time with you. Since our service is essentially coterminous, this is a great opportunity for us to get to know each other better and to discuss how to nurture our Bars' collaboration. If you are arriving on Wednesday and have time for drinks or dinner after the Convention's opening reception, please let me know. Alternatively, we could get together on Thursday after lunch. Should you be available and assuming it is okay with you, I will invite the members of the incoming HNBA executive committee, our outgoing President and our Executive Director

9/8/2008

to join us.

I look forward to hearing from you. Warm regards,

Ramona E. Romero, Esq.
President-Elect
Hispanic National Bar Association
c/o DuPont Legal
Tel: 302-992-4213
Fax: 302-892-7351
ramona.e.romero@usa.dupont.com

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Arlington, VA 22201
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Howard W. Martin, Jr., Immediate Past President
Crenshaw, Warz & Martin, P.L.C.
1200 Bank of America Center
Norfolk, VA 23510-2111
Telephone: (757) 623-3000

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SEP 9 2008



Virginia State Bar

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Mary Yancey Spencer
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for Bar Services

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Assistant Executive Director
for Administration

Edward L. Davis
Bar Counsel

August 29, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esquire
Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.
2400 Regions/Harbert Plaza
1901 Sixth Ave., North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203-2618

Dear Tommy:

I write to congratulate you on assuming the presidency of the American Bar Association. I am excited about your agenda, and the energy you have shown in preparing for the year ahead. I am especially interested in your focus on diversity, and in particular, your intention to hold a diversity summit in the beginning of 2009. As president of the Virginia State Bar, I have made diversity a primary focus, and I am happy to help you in any way in this regard.

If I can be of assistance to you at any time, please feel free to call upon me. Again, congratulations and best of luck for a successful year.

I wish you the very best.

Very truly yours,

Manuel A. Capsalis
President, Virginia State Bar

cc: Karen Gould, Esq.
Howard Martin, Esq.
Jon Huddleston, Esq.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT



JAMES D. ROGERS
JUDGE-RETIRED
14110 PRINCE PLACE
MINNETONKA, MINNESOTA 55345
(952) 935-8185

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SEP 11 2008

September 8, 2008

H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
Suite 2400
1901 6th Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama, 35203-2618

Dear President Wells:

I was pleased to note in the current issue of the ABA Journal that on your agenda is the Assisting of Military Families and also voting rights for military personnel. I have been a member of the ABA since 1955 and am still actively engaged in its programs.

I am also involved with ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) a Department of Defense program. I work as an Ombudsman helping service personnel with employment issues. In this work I have gotten to know Samuel F. Wright.

Sam is a now retired Captain in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps. For a number of years he worked in the Department of Labor Veterans Division and then with the Department of Defense ESGR. He is the author of the current USERRA (Uniformed Services Employment Rights Act) Law. Sam has become deeply interested and concerned about the voting rights of service personnel and I don't think that there is anyone more knowledgeable on this subject than Sam. He would be a great person to get involved in your effort.

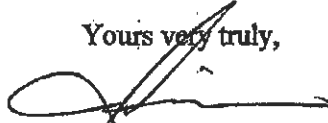
Sam has now gone into the practice of law in Washington, D. C. He specializes in matters of service personnel. His address is:

Samuel F. Wright
Suite 1110
1800 K Street N. W.
Washington, D. C., 20006

(202) 787-1900

I have not had the opportunity to meet you but look forward to this. I have some good friends of mine in Birmingham. One of them is Mike Slive the Commissioner of the SEC. I have known Mike for over 40 years. As you know he is a lawyer and practiced in New Hampshire and then in Chicago. Mike is a close friend of Bob Stein.

Yours very truly,



James D. Rogers

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SEP 12 2008



ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE CHAIR OF
THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Committees of the
House of Delegates
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60610-4714
(312) 988-5157

CREDENTIALS AND
ADMISSIONS

DRAFTING September 9, 2008

ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE
LEGAL PROFESSION

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

RESOLUTION AND IMPACT
REVIEW COMMITTEE

RULES AND CALENDAR

SELECT COMMITTEE

STEERING COMMITTEE
OF THE NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

Dear Tommy:

TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMUNICATIONS

TELLERS

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! You should give yourself a standing ovation for the extraordinary dedication, enthusiasm and hard work put forth by you to provide the members of our House with a worthwhile, efficient, substantive and satisfying experience that each delegate valued. Our team facilitated the debate and adoption of vital resolutions and underscored the impact of these resolutions for ABA membership to appreciate. Strong committees formed a powerful House.

I look forward to rejoining the Illinois delegation with you on the floor of our House to adopt the policies that make our American Bar Association the greatest professional association in the world.

Sincerely,

Laurel

Laurel G. Bellows,
Immediate Past Chair
House of Delegates

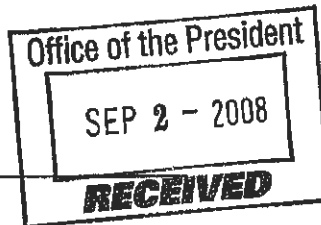
Tommy,

*Thank you for all your
advice and support your
friendship made these 2
years spectacular!*

L

LAW OFFICES OF
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RICHARD F. FLICKINGER
J. DUSTIN BARR



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August 26, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Wells:

Congratulations on your election as ABA President. I share your thoughts on the role of the ABA - and lawyers - as providing service.

You state that you are concerned about diversity: "Only about 10 percent of the legal profession are lawyers of color. We've got to do better in that regard."

Whom do you include as persons "of color?" Are Hispanics white? According to the Pequot Museum at Mashantucket, Connecticut, you are a Pequot Indian if you have 1/32 Pequot blood in you. The 2000 U S Census classified the U S population as follows: Hispanics of any race 12.5% Blacks 12.1%, Asians 3.6%, American Indians 0.7%, Native Hawaiians 0.1%, and some other race 0.2%. If by persons of color you mean Black, then 10% vs. 12.1% is not a horrific difference.

Neal Boortz writes, "[D]iversity is based not on an individual's abilities or character, but on a person's identity and status as a member of a group. [Diversity] - be it racial, gender based, or some other minority status - means more than the individual's integrity, character or other qualifications."

Diversity is a most insidious form of discrimination.

How do you plan "to do better" regarding diversity?

Do you think Pro Football should develop a similar program to cure the disproportionate minority of whites on professional football teams?

Respectfully,

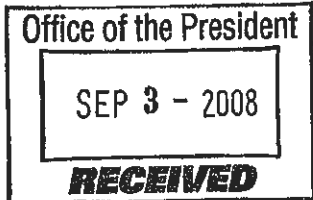
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard F. Flickinger".

Richard F. Flickinger



P.O. Box 631234 • Houston, Texas 77263 • Ph/Fax: 281.247.4026 • info@blackprelawconference.com • www.blackprelawconference.com

H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esq., President, American Bar Association
Attn: Megan Potter and Kay Mastronard, Communications and Presidential Committee Appointments
American Bar Association
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60654-7598



August 25, 2008

Dear President Wells:

I am writing on behalf of the steering committee and advisory board of **The Fourth Annual National Black Pre-Law Admissions & Preparation Conference and Law Fair 2008** to humbly request your support. This year's event will take place on **Friday, October 10, 2008 and Saturday, October 11, 2008** at the University of Houston in the University Hilton and University Center in Houston, Texas. This conference is the nation's premier information-sharing and networking empowerment event focused on the success of aspiring Black lawyers.

Since its inception in 2005, every year this event has attracted over 100 law schools from all over the country who attend to recruit future law students and numerous law school administrators, law students, judges, and lawyers who come out to share "insider" information and wisdom as speakers, panelists, moderators, and volunteers. Most importantly, hundreds of African American high school students, college students, college graduates, career changers, and working professionals attend to learn more about what it takes to pursue a professional legal education, to be successful in law school, and to have a productive and rewarding career after earning a law degree. Our goal is to emphasize the importance of being fully-informed and well-prepared, having a strategic mindset, a healthy spirit of competition, and an understanding of the challenges ahead, including the professional mandates of excellence, integrity, and service. This wonderful event offers inspirational and motivational keynote speeches given by those who have achieved despite the odds, empowering panel discussions and workshops, as well as numerous networking opportunities through planned icebreakers, networking power half-hours/hours, a professional networking social/mentorship mixer, refreshment breaks, and a future lawyers farewell reception. It even provides free food including a continental breakfast, box lunch, and refreshments after every panel on both conference days. Registration is completely free of charge, everyone is welcome, and the event is open to the public.

As the distinguished president of the American Bar Association, the nation's leading and largest bar association for American attorneys, we would sincerely appreciate a written expression of your support of this event for inclusion in our official souvenir program book called **Black Esquire™** magazine and to be featured on our conference website. If you would like to be included, please e-mail us both your letter and a professional headshot/photo in jpeg format directly to info@blackprelawconference.com or blackprelawconference@gmail.com no later than **Wednesday, September 10, 2008** in order to meet our publishing deadline.

Based on the extremely positive and enthusiastic feedback that we have received from past attendees, we are confident that this annual national effort is making a difference to help increase the representation of African Americans in the extremely competitive legal educational environment and professional world. To learn more about the event, please visit our official conference website at www.blackprelawconference.com. If you have any questions or concerns whatsoever regarding the event, feel free to e-mail us at the address above or call us at 281-247-4026. I have attached an official brochure, tentative schedule, and press release to this letter for your review.

Thank you in advance for your support of this dynamic informational, interactive, and motivational event created specifically to address the need to diversify our nation's law schools and the practicing bar by providing prospective law students with critical and comprehensive information, exposing them to helpful resources, and connecting them with contacts who could serve as role models and potential mentors to help them along the challenging journey ahead. Your support is greatly desired and appreciated tremendously. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best and sincere regards,

Evangelina M. Mitchell, Esq.
Conference Founder & Chairperson