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2008

2008-10-03 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. October 3, 2008

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Rcvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informationa copies)
IL ·	Stephanie J. Cole, President Conference of State Court Administrators Ltr – re the appointment of the 2008-09 liaison to the ABA, Rosalyn W. Frierson.	9/29	10/3	Forwarded to Alpha Brady	
IL	Leslie A. Hayashi Honolulu, HI Ltr – written on behalf of the ABA Judicial Division's Outreach Network Committee listing programs which may further initiatives	9/24	9/30	NRN	

of Access to Justice, Independence of the Judiciary, Diversity, and the Rule of Law (enclosed a 2009 calendar, Islands of Hawaii)

Conference of State Court Administrators

PRESIDENT
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September 29, 2008

Mr. H. Thomas Wells, Jr. President American Bar Association 321 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60610

Dear Mr. Wells:

The Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) is very interested in maintaining its relationship with the American Bar Association. To that end, we are continuing the practice of appointing a member to serve as a liaison to your organization. The 2008-09 liaison will be:

Ms. Rosalyn W. Frierson Director South Carolina Court Administration 1015 Sumter St., Suite 200 Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Stephanie J. Cole

We anticipate that Ms. Frierson will attend your future meetings, be available to answer questions about COSCA and also be prepared to make brief presentations and discuss with you national policy issues of importance to COSCA. We hope that you will invite Ms. Frierson, in addition to our president, to your future meetings. COSCA of course will pay all expenses and registration fees for Ms. Frierson. We anticipate that the president will continue to attend whenever possible, but want to ensure that COSCA has a consistent, long-term relationship with your association.

We hope that the appointment of this liaison is acceptable to you, as we believe it is extremely important for associations connected to the court community to work closely with each other to improve our judicial system. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Stephanie J. Cole

President

(907) 264-0547

Office of the President

OCT 3 - 2008

RECEIVED



September 24, 2008

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

Dear President Wells:

On behalf of the ABA Judicial Division's Outreach Network Committee, it is my pleasure to let you know that we have programs which may further your particular initiatives of Access to Justice, Independence of the Judiciary, Diversity, and the Rule of Law.

With respect to your Access to Justice initiative, we offer the following:

National Issues Forum on Public Trust and Confidence in the Justice System "And Justice for All: Ensuring Public Trust and Confidence in the Justice System" is a program to engage small groups in discussions of how to make the justice system more fair. Free books, moderator's guides, and a 10 minute video are provided.

Dialogue: Courts Reaching Out to Their Communities: A Handbook for Creating and Enhancing Court and Community Collaboration

Produced by the Special Task Force on Court/Community Outreach of the Judicial Council of California. This detailed document includes model public education programs for:

Working with youth and schools Juror Education/Appreciation Speakers Bureaus Courthouse tours

These program models include general descriptions, "what works" tips, and samples and tools for developing programs.

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With respect to your <u>Independence of the Judiciary</u> initiative, we have the following:

Separation of Powers

Conversations on the Constitution website includes "Separation of Powers," Advice and Consent," Establishment of Religion," and "Search and Seizure" as featured topics. The site has conversation starters, focus questions, resources, and an interactive quiz on the powers of each branch. The Separation of Powers pages feature three conversation starters: The Federalist No. 48, James Madison; Hamdi et. Al. V. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, et. al.; and Letter from president Eisenhower to Senator John Stennis (D-MS), October 7, 1957. Did You Know? A powerpoint presentation with 10 questions and answers to stimulate discussion about the U.S. Constitution. This powerpoint presentation can serve as a companion to "Conversations on the Constitution," or introduce other outreach activities that address Constitutional issues.

Federal Courts' Lessons for High School Students

In its ongoing effort to assist teachers and judges in educating young people about the federal courts, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' Office of Public Affairs offers a series of lesson plans that support the 52-page overview of the federal judiciary called *Understanding the Federal Courts*.

For your **Diversity** initiative, we have:

Dialogue on Brown v. Board of Education

A dialogue with high school students about the history of the Brown decision and its continuing legacy in American law and society.

And finally, for your Rule of Law initiative, we offer:

ABA Dialogue on Freedom

A dialogue with high school students about their rights under the U.S. Constitution and a comparison with scenarios of other sets of rights.

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National Issues Forum on the American Jury

The ABA Judicial Division and the Coalition for Justice have partnered with the Kettering Foundation to create a National Issues Forum program on the American jury titled, "Reaching a Verdict: What Do We Want for the American Jury System." A draft discussion guide was piloted at the ABA Midyear Meeting on February 10, 2005 In Salt Lake City, Utah. The jury issue book, moderator's guide, and 10 minute "starter" video were developed in conjunction with the ABA's past president Robert Grey's American jury initiative.

We the Jury Student Jury program

The ABA Young Lawyers Division created this program to educate high school students about their roles as potential jurors. The 88 page curriculum guide and video are available free via the website. The guide includes extensive information about the evolution of the jury system, how the right to trial by jury was guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, the role that citizens play in the judicial system by participating in the jury process, the voir dire process of selecting a jury, the order of a typical trial, and the jury's role in the proceeding. The interactive mock trial video provides both a civil and criminal trial that set the stage for students to participate in deliberations in an effort to reach a verdict.

Dialogue on the American Jury

A dialogue designed to help high school classrooms and community groups explore the many issues related to trial by jury. It includes the history of trial by jury, an exploration of the issues confronting the jury today, and four landmark rulings on the jury.

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The American Jury: Bulwark of Democracy

An online resource guide provided by the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago and the Chicago Historical Society for teachers, students, and citizens devoted to explaining the American jury system and its role in the American legal, social, and political life. It features lessons, information, and resources developed by the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago with high school teachers from California, Colorado, North Carolina, Washington, Wisconsin, and Illinois in cooperation with national experts and scholars on the jury system.

Current National and Regional Jury Outreach Programs

The Center for Jury Studies at the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) has assembled an extensive array of jury outreach programs that are described and linked to this Site. Each resource is categorized by the type of audience it is intended for: future jurors, the general citizenry, persons in the workforce affected by jury service, court administrators, trial judges, and trial attorneys.

Dialogue on Brown v. Board of Education See description above.

Federal Courts' Lessons for High School Students
See description above.

Separation of Powers
See description above.

We also offer the following <u>additional resources:</u> Judicial Outreach on a Shoestring; A Working Manual and the ABA Public Education Division website.

If you would like additional information about how the Judicial Division's Outreach Network can collaborate our efforts with your Presidential initiatives, please feel free to contact the Chair of the Judicial Outreach Network, Ms. Linda Murname at kmurnane98@aol.com, or Judge Tonie Clark, vice-chair of the Judicial Outreach Network at kmurnane98@aol.com, or me at kclarke@co.pg.md.us, or me at kclarke@co.pg.md.us, or me at kclarke@co.pg.md.us.

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You may also contact Ms. Gilda Fairley, our ABA staff member at Fairley@staff.abanet.org.

In addition should you would wish to collaborate with the Judicial Outreach Network on any of your specific programs, please contact us and we'd be happy to discuss the matter.

Thank you for your kind attention and we wish you the best of success in your term.

Very truly yours,

Enclosure

P.S. Alan and I send our warmest aloha to you and Jan!

cc via e-mail: Linda Murnane Judge Tonie Clark Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn Gilda Fairley