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2009-01-30 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.

January 30, 2009

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Rcvd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
AL	Bruce L. Adelson Federal Compliance Consulting Potomac, MD Ltr sent to Carolyn & Tommy re: article in ABA Journal Weekly Newsletter, <i>Lawyer-Run Business Helps Attorneys and Others Arrange Discreet Affairs</i>	1/23	1/28	<i>Forwarded to Ed Adams, ABAJ, for response on behalf of the ABA President & President- Elect</i>	Hank White Karl Camillucci
AL	W.J. Michael Cody Burch, Porter & Johnson Memphis, TN Ltr – enjoyed getting to visit in Washington	1/26	1/28	<i>TW to respond, if necessary</i>	
IL	William A. Blakey, Chairman CLEO Copy of letter sent to Henry F. White, Jr. re: ABA/CLEO relationship	1/21	1/27	<i>NRN</i>	
IL	Tommy M. Ford Lerch Bates Ltr to inquire about Associate Membership with the ABA	1/20	1/28	<i>Forwarded to Paula Cleave, Membership, for response</i>	

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2009

Federal Compliance Consulting
11808 Becket Street
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-762-5272
240-536-9192 fax

Bruce L. Adelson
CEO/Attorney at Law
badelson1@comcast.net

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DC, MD, MI, VA

January 23, 2009

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

Carolyn B. Lamm
Incoming ABA President
White & Case, LLP
Suite 600
701 13th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005-3911

Dear Mr. Wells and Ms. Lamm:

I write as an ABA member and a lawyer of 26 years experience to express my deep consternation and outrage at an article that appeared in today's ABA Journal Weekly Newsletter.

The article, entitled "Lawyer-Run Business Helps Attorneys and Others Arrange Discreet Affairs" describes how a business run by a graduate of York University Law School in Toronto has developed an online agency that helps people who are married or in ostensibly committed relationships "...cheat on a spouse or a romantic partner."

With our country in arguably the worst economic down spiral since the Great Depression, with the historic election of a new president, with reports about the unprecedented politicization of the Bush Justice Department, and with myriad other topics that would be of PROFESSIONAL interest to lawyers, I am incredulous that the ABA Journal publishes such an offensive and

useless article. I wonder rhetorically how much of my annual dues subsidizes the questionable editorial practices of the Journal.

For your information, this situation is quite different than my experience with Public Lawyer Magazine, which has published two of my articles. I have been consistently impressed with that publication's editorial standards and content. The Journal should take a badly needed lesson from one of its brethren.

My concern is with the ABA and the policies and procedures that led the Journal to publish this piece more than with the dubious agency that is the article's subject. After all, I am a dues-paying member of what had once been a more prestigious legal organization than it is today. I find this article to be symptomatic of what ails the ABA in general and is yet another example of questionable ABA decisions and misplaced priorities.

The article's publication also leads me to reconsider my membership. I have discussed this article with many other colleagues who are also ABA members. They are equally outraged.

I look forward to your response. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce L. Adelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bruce L. Adelson

cc: Henry E. White, Jr.

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January 26, 2009

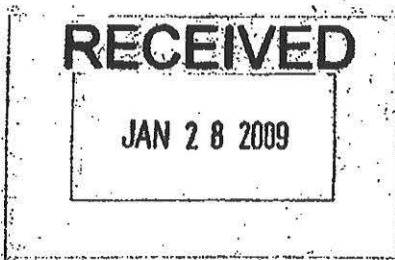
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H. Thomas Wells, Jr., Esq.
Maynard Cooper & Galé PC
1901 Sixth Avenue North
2400 AmSouth / Harbert Plaza
Birmingham, AL 35203-2618

Dear Tom,

I enjoyed very much getting to visit a little with you at dinner on Friday night in Washington. I am going to call the Rotary Club this morning and make sure that I get to say hello again when you come to Memphis.

Please give Tom Thaggard my best wishes for his father.

Sincerely,

W.J. Michael Cody

WJMC/bd



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Office of the President
JAN 27 2009
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January 21, 2009

Mr. Henry F. White, Jr.
Executive Director
American Bar Association
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654-7598

Dear Hank:

As you know, the Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO) has been in conversation with the General Counsel's staff about CLEO's historic and future relationship with the American Bar Association (ABA). We have had the opportunity to review documents related to the relationship and our Executive Director has had informal exchanges with staff about our current relationship, and the ABA's relationship with other ABA affiliated entities. I have had the opportunity to review and discuss the proposed Agreement with the CLEO Council at our annual meeting on January 3, 2009. Currently, we are exploring the several issues addressed in the Agreement, especially the organizational liability of CLEO's constituent organizations, including the ABA.

The CLEO Council is currently evaluating the ABA's relationship with some of its other affiliated organizations, CLEO's current legal status, and CLEO's strategic plan for the next five years in order to determine what kind of relationship with the ABA would be in the best interest of both CLEO and the ABA in the future. CLEO's Executive Committee will explore and evaluate CLEO's relationship with the ABA and make recommendations with regard to steps that should be taken to strengthen and better define the relationship.

I am confident that once the Executive Committee has had an opportunity to thoroughly examine the current nature of the ABA/CLEO relationship, including liability issues raised in the Draft Agreement, and consulted with the full Council with regard to what kind of relationship places CLEO in the best posture to achieve our diversity goals in the future - we will be in a position to dialogue with you. As soon as we complete our review and evaluation, we will be in a position to engage in the type of discussion required to clarify our relationship with the ABA.

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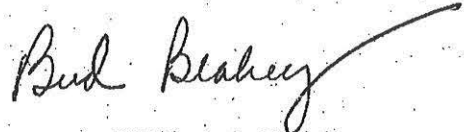
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Page Two
White Letter
January 21, 2009

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this matter with you in greater detail in the near future. We very much appreciate and welcome your continuing engagement with and support of CLEO.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bud Blakey". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

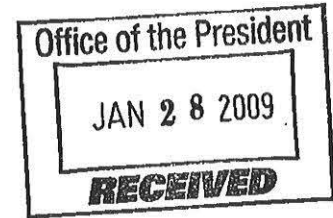
William A. Blakey
Chairman

cc: H. Thomas Wells, Jr.
Hon Dennis W. Archer
R. Thomas Howell
Thomas W. Susman
CLEO Executive Committee



LERCH BATES

Building Insight



January 20, 2009

American Bar Association
321 North Clark Street,
Chicago, IL 60654-7598

Attn: Mr. H. Thomas Wells, Jr., President

Re: Associate Membership

Dear Mr. Wells:

This letter is being written to inquire about Associate Membership with the ABA.

Lerch Bates Inc. was founded in 1947 and provides world-wide vertical transportation consulting services to building owners, property management companies, hospitals, insurance companies, developers, architects etc. Our interest with the ABA is specific to commercial building insurance company claims that would include expert investigation. Loss of elevator and escalator equipment in commercial buildings due to water, fire, smoke and earthquake damage can result in very large claims by the contracting elevator companies. Our third party independent assessment of the vertical transportation equipment provides formal investigation and documentation to either confirm or counter those claims submitted by the elevator companies.

Lerch Bates Inc. has represented investigation companies, who are hired by law firms, for insurance claim cases across the United States related to damaged elevator and escalator equipment. Our network of offices and staff are central to most major cities with consultants that average over 20 years in the elevator industry. Most Lerch Bates Inc. consultants are also Certified Elevator Inspectors (CEI), which is an additional accreditation beyond most in the elevator industry. The CEI accreditation represents additional annual class time and testing for extensive knowledge and understanding of elevator and escalator codes.

Lerch Bates Inc. through membership with the ABA could become a very valuable vertical transportation consulting associate with law firms seeking our services. The question is, will membership in the ABA provide the exposure we are seeking for those firms and individuals that need and can use our services?

Any comments and assistance that you can provide is greatly appreciated. We know that we offer valuable services, we are not sure how to best advertise those services within the legal profession!

Sincerely,

Tommy M. Ford, CEI
District Manager, Arizona & New Mexico
8611 N. Black Canyon Hwy., Suite 106
Phoenix, AZ 85021
(602)544-2010
Email: tommy.ford@lerchbates.com