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2009

### 2009-05-22 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.

May 22, 2009

Origin	Correspondence	Date	Revd	Status (All suggested dispositions subject to review by TW)	CCs (Informational copies)
email	<b>Gregory P. Conyers</b> <b>Director, Justice Initiatives Division</b> <b>State Bar of Michigan</b> Ltr -- request to participate in Diversity Summit meeting on June 18-20, 2009 in Wash. DC	5/15	5/15	<i>Cie Armstead responded on 5/15/09</i>	
IL	<b>James B. Warlick, Acting</b> <b>Assistant Secretary of State for</b> <b>International Organization Affairs</b> <b>U.S. Department of State</b> Ltr -- acknowledgment of HTW March 20 letter to the President re rule of law	5/5	5/12	<i>Forwarded to Tom Susman, Hank White and Michael Pates as an FYI.</i>	Ira Pilchin
IL	<b>James H. Fry, Executive Director</b> <b>Legal Services Alabama</b> Ltr -- re their Basic Field Grant	5/5	5/11	<i>TW agreed to act a as a reference.</i>	
IL	<b>Harry Truman Moore</b> <b>State Delegate for Arkansas</b> Ltr -- enclosing photos from ABA Day	5/4	5/11	<i>Forwarded to Peggy Sue Rentz</i>	
IL	<b>Christian Charrière-Bournazel</b> <b>President of the Paris Bar</b> Ltr -- re Paris Bar traineeship, "Stage International" and inviting one or more lawyers to participate in the program	4/29		<i>Forwarded to Kathleen Sullivan.</i>	Ira Pilchin

## **Curd, Beverly**

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**From:** Pilchen, Ira  
**Sent:** Friday, May 15, 2009 12:35 PM  
**To:** Curd, Beverly  
**Subject:** FW: Diversity in the legal profession

**Attachments:** Invitation Letter A.PDF; Summit Summary.pdf



Invitation Letter  
A.PDF (186 K...



Summit  
Summary.pdf (120 K...

Please log email and reply. Thanks.

Ira

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Armstead, Cie  
**Sent:** Friday, May 15, 2009 12:31 PM  
**To:** Gregory Conyers  
**Cc:** hpope@jaffelaw.com; Strandlie, Julie; ABA President; Pilchen, Ira  
**Subject:** RE: Diversity in the legal profession

Mr. Conyers:

On behalf of ABA President H. Thomas Wells, please consider the attached invitation to attend the ABA Presidential Diversity Summit entitled "Diversity in the Legal Profession: The Next Steps?" This invitational event will be held June 18-20, 2009, in the Washington, DC, area.

Thank you.

Cie Armstead  
American Bar Association  
Director, ABA Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity  
321 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60654-7598

T: 312.988.6086  
F: 312.988.5647  
armsteadc@staff.abanet.org  
www.abanet.org/diversity

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gregory Conyers [mailto:GCONYERS@mail.michbar.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 15, 2009 11:41 AM  
**To:** ABA President  
**Cc:** hpope@jaffelaw.com; Armstead, Cie; Strandlie, Julie  
**Subject:** Diversity in the legal profession

Greetings Mr. Wells,

A colleague recently shared with me information concerning an upcoming ABA meeting regarding diversity. My understanding is that the meeting is by invitation only, however I am hopeful that I may also participate. The State Bar of Michigan has recently been engaged in several activities respecting diversity in the legal profession. I am certain this ABA meeting would provide some additional useful information.

The State Bar is looking at ways to work with other entities to improve diversity, and I believe participation in your important meeting will provide us additional information and support going forward.

P.S. sorry I could not join you at the Presidents' Dinner during ABA Day - I had a prior commitment.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration,

Gregory P. Conyers  
Director, Justice Initiatives Division  
State Bar of Michigan  
306 Townsend Street  
Lansing, MI 48933-2083  
1-877-247-8233 ext. 6358  
1-517-346-6358  
1-800-968-1442  
Fax: 1-517-482-6248

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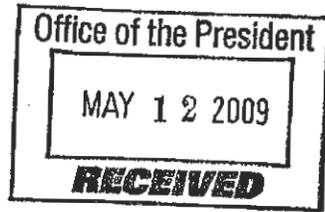
+-----mail.michbar.org-----+



United States Department of State

Assistant Secretary of State  
for International Organization Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20520-6319  
May 5, 2009



Dear Mr. Wells:

Thank you for your kind letter dated March 20 encouraging further action toward the protection of human rights and the rule of law both at home and abroad. The President has asked the Department of State to respond on his behalf.

As you have likely heard, the Administration has decided to seek election to the United Nation's Human Rights Council. We believe that as a fully-engaged member we can do more to advance human rights globally and to improve the Council's disappointing record to date.

Our International Criminal Court policy is, as you note, currently under inter-agency review. The review will examine the sorts of issues that you raise in your letter. We thank the American Bar Association for its recommendations.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

James B. Warlick, Acting

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



May 5, 2009

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

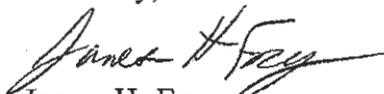
Dear Tommie:

We are once again in the process of applying to renew our Basic Field Grant (2010 – 2012) with the Legal Services Corporation. As you know this is the “big one.”

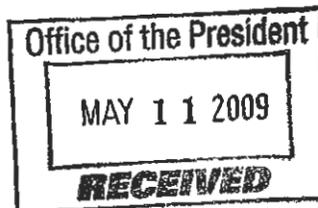
You graciously agreed to be a reference for Legal Services Alabama during our last application, and I would like your permission to include you again. You do not have to write a letter or do anything unless someone from LSC calls. Then, you only have to say nice things about us – if you can.

Please let me know if you would prefer not to be a reference; otherwise, if I have not heard from you by May 13<sup>th</sup>, I will assume that you consent. Thank you very much for your constant support, friendship and valuable counsel.

Sincerely,

  
James H. Fry  
Executive Director

/sm



AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

State Delegate for the  
State of

750 North Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
(312) 988-5000

Respond to:

P.O. Box 726

Paragould, AR 72451-0726

(870) 239-2225

(870) 239-2780 (Fax)

htm@goodwinmoore.com (Email)

May 4, 2009

Mr. Tommy Wells  
Office of the President  
American Bar Association  
321 North Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60654

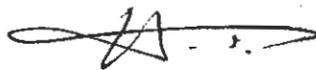
Dear Tommy:

It was good seeing you in Washington for ABA Day.

Enclosed you will find some photos of you with some of  
Arkansas' finest.

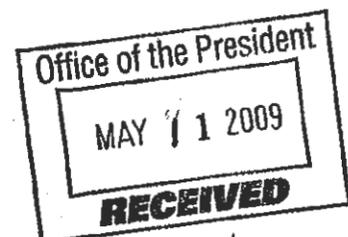
I look forward to seeing you in Chicago.

Sincerely,



Harry Truman Moore

HTM:djw



English Translation

Dear President,  
Dear Colleague,

As you are no doubt aware, the Paris Bar has for several years organised a traineeship known as the "Stage International", which is intended to give foreign lawyers the opportunity to gain crucial insight into how law is practiced in France, particularly by allowing them to take part in top-quality law courses and gain work experience inside French law firms.

This traineeship brings together lawyers of diverse nationalities and backgrounds; who, as a group, first attend courses at the *Ecole de Formation du Barreau* on legal ethics, the legal system and legal procedures in France (in October) before gaining hands-on experience, individually, during a month-long internship (in November) at a Paris law firm.

Not only are our courses taught by some of the most distinguished and highly qualified legal scholars, including high magistrates, eminent members of the Bar, university professors, and recognized instructors, the programme also serves as a forum whereby foreign lawyers can exchange ideas and information about how their respective legal systems operate.

This international traineeship is, first and foremost, a meeting place for lawyers who would like to compare legal practices and learn from their differences.

Let me also point out that we select host firms ourselves in order to ensure that they are tailored to our foreign lawyers' needs.

I would be happy to accept for admission to the traineeship one or more lawyers who have been pre-selected by you, bearing in mind that the candidate must be a member of your Bar and must satisfy the programme's requirements, namely: the candidate must speak French proficiently, be less than 35 years of age, and be covered by legal liability insurance.

Lastly, I would like to draw your attention to certain aspects of traineeship funding.

The courses themselves are entirely free-of-charge to the trainee, as they are totally funded by the Paris Bar. However, the trainee is responsible for his or her own round-trip travel costs to and from Paris, as well as accommodation and living expenses in Paris.

In light of the costs entailed, participants often benefit from a stipend offered by the French Embassy, which is intended to help defray most of the trainee's expenses.

I have already taken it upon myself to send a letter to your country's French Embassy, so that appropriate measures might be taken to set up one or more stipends for lawyers from your Bar who are selected to participate in the traineeship.

It is my hope that such letter will facilitate your dealings with your Embassy in this regard.

I look forward to welcoming participating lawyers to Paris.

Yours sincerely,

Christian Charrière-Bournazel  
President of the Paris Bar

ORDRE DES AVOCATS

A LA

COUR D'APPEL DE PARIS

*Le Bâtonnier*

*Monsieur le Président H. Thomas WELLS, Jr  
American Bar Association  
321 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60654 - 7598  
Etats-Unis*

*Le Bâtonnier*

Paris, le 29 avril 2009

Anne Souliéac  
Tél. : 01.44.32.49.43  
Télécopie : 01.44.32.49.27  
e-mail : asoulieac@avocatparis.org

Monsieur le Président,

Pour sa douzième année consécutive, le barreau de Paris organisera aux mois d'octobre et de novembre 2009 le "Stage International", formation destinée à de jeunes confrères étrangers et francophones, désireux de découvrir la pratique des avocats en France, à travers un enseignement de qualité et une expérience au sein d'un cabinet parisien. Au titre de ce stage nous avons reçu, en 2008, 47 jeunes avocats de 25 nationalités différentes.

Ce stage réunit ainsi des confrères d'horizon et de nationalité différents qui, ensemble, reçoivent dans un premier temps un enseignement à l'École de Formation du Barreau concernant notamment notre déontologie, notre système juridictionnel et nos procédures judiciaires (au mois d'octobre) puis acquièrent, à travers un stage d'un mois (au mois de novembre) dans un cabinet d'avocats parisiens, une expérience professionnelle concrète de la vie d'un avocat parisien.

La très grande qualité des intervenants qui acceptent chaque année de participer à cet enseignement (hauts magistrats, éminents membres du barreau, professeurs d'université, enseignants réputés) permet également aux stagiaires étrangers d'échanger des informations sur le fonctionnement de leur système judiciaire respectif.

Ce stage international est avant tout une rencontre entre professionnels du droit, désireux de comparer leur pratique et de s'enrichir de leurs différences.

Je tiens également à vous préciser que les cabinets d'accueil sont choisis par nos services afin que ceux-ci répondent au mieux aux attentes de nos confrères étrangers.

Je serais ravi d'accueillir dans le cadre de cette formation un ou plusieurs confrères de votre barreau que vous auriez au préalable sélectionné et qui remplirait les conditions requises pour le bon déroulement de ce stage à savoir être francophone, être agé de moins de 35 ans et bénéficier d'une assurance responsabilité civile.

Il me faut enfin attirer votre attention sur le financement de cette formation.

L'enseignement est totalement gratuit pour le stagiaire car il est financé en totalité par le barreau de Paris. Cependant, il appartient au stagiaire d'assurer la prise en charge intégrale de son voyage et de son séjour à Paris .

C'est la raison pour laquelle les confrères qui participent à cette formation bénéficient souvent d'une bourse émanant de l'Ambassade de France qui couvre la plus grande partie de ces frais.

D'ores et déjà, j'ai adressé un courrier à l'Ambassade de France de votre pays, pour que des dispositions soient prises afin de débloquer une ou plusieurs bourses au profit des avocats de votre barreau que vous aurez choisi pour effectuer ce stage.

J'espère que cette lettre vous permettra de recevoir un accueil favorable de l'Ambassade lorsque vous vous adresserez à elle.

Dans l'attente du plaisir de recevoir mes confrères à Paris, je vous prie de croire, Monsieur le Président, à l'expression de mes sentiments confraternellement dévoués et cordiaux.

*Res. B. Yous*



Christian Charrière-Bournazel  
Bâtonnier de l'Ordre des avocats de Paris