

CBA Committee/Section Chairperson Annual Report/Review

To: Melissa Nicoletti (melissan@cobar.org)

From: Christine J. Law (Chairperson)

Judicial Liaison Section (Committee/Section)

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Annual Report

(Please send to CBA by May 15, 2008 - Fax: (303) 861-5274)

Name of Committee/Section: Judicial Liaison Section

1. Report on projects that the Committee/Section has completed:

The primary project of the Section since Fall 2007 has been participating in legislation regarding the Judicial Performance Commissions. We also followed the progress of legislation regarding the funding and eventual construction of the new Judicial Complex. The Section also monitored the unsuccessful effort to place a citizen initiative on the ballot to require judicial term limits. A small project has been undertaken to revise our Bylaws.

2. Report on projects that are continuing and/or incomplete at this time, and suggested length of project:

We expect to approve the new Bylaws in May 2008. This Section currently does not have regular or continuing projects other than to respond to and participate in legislation or other issues involving the judiciary; citizen initiatives or petition drives etc.

3. Report on CLE programs

Our Section has not offered CLE programs recently. The Section's focus is more on current issues involving the judiciary.

5. Report on any legislation the Committee/Section has worked on and/or sponsored (only need bill number, topic and result)

We participated in SB54; the legislation regarding the Judicial Performance Commissions. We also followed the progress of SB 206 the legislation regarding the funding and eventual construction of a new Judicial Complex and the recusal legislation that was passed in response to the Boulder adverse possession case.

6. Recommendations regarding goals and tasks by Committee/Section for ensuing year. Please note the name of potential future leaders:

Michael Valdez is our Section Liaison and we generally follow his suggestions about the legislative topics and issues that are expected to involve the judiciary. This is a year by year process with the Section working on legislation or other issues at the time they arise. We do respond to ideas and topics other than legislation if a member of the Section or a member of the Judiciary presents the issue as one within our scope.

We recently elected a new slate of officers for two year terms running until June 2009. I expect to serve as Chair until 2009. My Vice Chair, Paul Chessin, agreed to serve as Vice Chair with the stated intent to continue as Chair in 2009. Our Secretary-Treasurer, Judge Angie Arkin, also intends to serve as Vice Chair in 2009 and move into the Chair after Paul's term.

7. Sunset Analysis: Should the Committee/Section be retained in its present form and for its present function. (Explain views of the chairperson and the committee members and state consensus reached, if any):

Yes. We recently revised our Bylaws and expect the Section to run smoothly in the future. Our function is different than other Sections and Committees in that we are not inner directed-we do not offer CLE or other services directly to our Section members. Instead, the Section is outer-directed and our members give their time and energy to participate in and promote legislation and other activities that serve the judiciary.

8. Successes or problems encountered during the past year. (Include recommendations for future):

With Michael's good guidance the Section worked well on the issues of the Judicial Performance Commissions, not only regarding the legislation, but also reviewed and suggested changes to the rules promulgated by the State Judicial Commission and approved by the Colorado Supreme Court.

9. Comments on CBA staff that has worked with your group:

I can't say enough good things about Michael Valdez. He is the strong right arm of our group. He presents us with good information about issues we may want to participate in and then guides us through the various procedures as the topic winds its way through the legislative process. Because we are outer-directed we couldn't do what we do for the judiciary without Michael's assistance.

Signed *Christine J. Law*

Dated May 15, 2008

Cc: Chuck Turner, CBA/DBA Executive Director