

Bench ABE AMERICAN BAR ENDOWMENT *Insuring your life's needs. Advancing your life's work.*



PRESS

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Newsletter

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“WHAT IF” SCORES HIGH WITH ABE LAWYERS

“I got my ice cream,” said the caller with a smirk in his voice. “Thanks for reminding me how fun my slinky was when I was a kid,” said another caller with some obvious glee.

At the ABE, our phones have been ringing with some generous calls. We have been reminded that a little fun – and some creative ABE postcards – can go a long way in helping people remember the unique features of ABE insurance.

Images of ice cream (insurance that covers you), a slinky (insurance that expands your coverage), a roller suitcase (insurance that moves with you in your career) and an ABA membership card (insurance only for ABA members) were sent to ABA members earlier this year. While “lawyers insurance for lawyers” is a serious business, it was clear that ABA members appreciate a nice looking ice cream sundae.

That’s why the ice cream doesn’t stop with ABE postcards. At the ABA Annual Meeting Expo – August 7-10 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco – the ABE will be extending the awareness program at our booth. Each day at Booth #210-211, a



Renee Leskiw
Executive Director

different ABE image and give-away will be waiting for you. We encourage you and your colleagues to stop by and enjoy a complimentary gift and some good conversation with us.

Each year, the ABE booth also pays special attention to the golfers among us. This year if you sink a hole-in-one, we’ll have a pouch bag filled with tees and complete with a hook to attach to your golf bag. These tokens convey our message of how our insurance and charitable giving programs insure your life’s needs and advance your life’s work.

If you cannot make it to this year’s ABA Annual Meeting and Expo, email us at information@abendowment.org for your ABE give-away. To learn more about the charitable and insurance products the ABE offers, visit our website at www.abendowment.org, email us, or call the ABE toll-free at 800-621-8981.

NEW CERTIFICATE HOLDER ID’S FOR ABE POLICYHOLDERS

As you know, when you received your new ABA member card this past July your ABA Member Identification Number changed. The American Bar Endowment has updated our computer system with your new ABA Member ID Number. This new ABA Member ID Number has become your ABE Certificate Holder Identification Number. Just like your previous Certificate Holder ID, your updated ID number is eight digits.

When members call the American Bar

Endowment, they will now be asked to give the Endowment representative their new Certificate Holder ID to access their account information.

If you have any questions about your ABA Member ID Number, please contact ABA Membership and Marketing at 312-988-5871. If you have any questions about your ABE Certificate Holder ID Number, please contact your Personal Endowment Representative at 800-621-8981.

Who’s Who at the ABE?



Hi! My name is Juanita Thompkins and I am a licensed Insurance Administration Representative here at the American Bar Endowment. I have been part of the ABE staff for 5 years.

I am here to help you through the insurance application process and adjust your insurance coverage to meet your changing needs. If you need to increase your current coverage, or apply for a new ABE-sponsored insurance plan, please call the ABE at 1-800-621-8981. Your calls are my primary responsibility.

In addition to working with members, I interact with the insurance companies that underwrite our products. I assist in troubleshooting to make sure we take special care of each and every member.

If you have any questions regarding any of the ABE-sponsored insurance plans, feel free to call me Monday through Friday from 8:15am to 4:30pm central time at **1-800-621-8981** or email us at information@abendowment.org.

I CONTRIBUTE MY DIVIDENDS EVERY YEAR...

HOW IS THE MONEY USED?

Each year the ABE makes grants to support hundreds of research, public service and educational projects in the field of law through the activities of the ABA's Fund for Justice and Education (FJE) and the American Bar Foundation (ABF).

The Endowment's unique role in the ABA family is to "Fund the Future" of the legal profession through continued financial support to the FJE and ABF. (See below for further details on some specific programs ABE grants have supported.)

In order to "Fund the Future" we need your help and support. Member participation in our insurance plans is the life blood of the Endowment. Without your support and the dividend contributions made by participating members, we would not be able to continue the current level of grants established over our nearly 40 year tradition of grants to the ABF and the FJE.

Examples of two of the projects funded by the Endowment through the FJE and the ABF are outlined below. If you are interested in finding out about other funded programs, please call the FJE at 312-988-5927 or the ABF at 312-988-6606.

National Judicial College

The National Judicial College, founded in 1964 and supported in part by the ABE dividend contributions from insured members, is the nation's premier provider of judicial education. This year, the College created a new program called the Courage to Live.

This program is designed to address the seriousness of underage drinking and driving through community education and judicial outreach. The goal of the Courage to Live program is to help students devise action plans they can use in their own schools to combat drinking and driving.

The program brings judges in to schools to hold live DUI hearings. The courtroom drama is mixed with state of the art teaching styles and cutting edge technology to address the critical issue of underage drinking and driving. Participating students hear from a variety of speakers, all with the same message: drinking and driving has serious consequences.

With respect to its traditional curriculum, the College continues to offer a variety of challenging classes in a wide spectrum of studies for judges. From General Jurisdiction to Advanced Evidence and from Dispute Resolution Skills to Civil Mediation, the range of topics covered by NJC courses is comprehensive. The College's academic programs feature more than 50 two-day to three-week residential sessions offered throughout the year to

both new and experienced judges.

The College continually updates and expands its curriculum in response to the specific needs of the courts in a changing society. In addition to the many courses offered annually, this year the College has a number of new courses, including: (1) Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders; (2) Mediation Advocacy for Litigators; (3) Genetics and the Court; (4) Compassion in Action: Elders in Today's Courtroom; and (5) Search, Seizure and Criminal Procedure.

For more information on the *National Judicial College*, or any of the *National Judicial College* course offerings, please contact the FJE at 312-988-5927.

Researchers Awarded the John Bates Clark Medal

American Bar Foundation Research Fellow and leading micro-economist Steven Levitt has recently been awarded the John Bates Clark Medal by the American Economic Association. The award is made every second year to "that American economist under the age of forty who is adjudged to have made a significant contribution to economic thought and knowledge." Earlier this academic year, Levitt was named the Alvin H. Baum Professor in Economics. Professor Levitt studies the economic

aspects of crime and corruption, the criminal justice system, abortion legalization, and school choice. He is the editor of the *Journal of Political Economy* and has authored several recent articles including "An Economic Analysis of a Drug-Selling Gang's Finances" in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* and "Alternative Strategies for Identifying the Link Between Unemployment and Crime" in the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. His work on crime and corruption is supported in part by the ABE dividend contributions from insured members.

American Bar Foundation researchers Robert Nelson and Laura Beth Nielsen, among other scholars interested in anti-discrimination law, have submitted a special project proposal on legal and social scientific approaches to employment discrimination to the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. It appears that the Center will itself provide partial funding for this effort and has procured another additional funding from the Ford Foundation. Although the grants will run through the Center, these funds will support the important work inaugurated by the ABF/Stanford Spring 2003 conference on employment discrimination which has been supported in part by the ABE Dividend contributions from insured members.

For more information about this or any other research projects of the ABF, please contact Abbie Willard, Director of External Affairs, at 312-988-6500.