

SINCE 1896

ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION



# Annual Report 2002

## THE ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION

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JoAnne Baker & Ingrid Varenbrink, Arbitration/Discipline/CLE Library  
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## Introduction & Overview

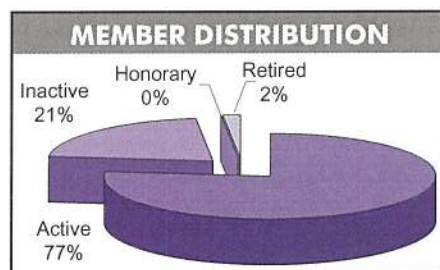
In 2002, the Alaska Bar Association had 3,580 members in the following categories: Active, 2,755 (2,281 In-state and 474 Outside); Inactive, 761; Honorary, 1; Retired, 63. Its affairs are governed by a 12-member Board — nine attorneys and three non-attorney citizens.

Written guidelines for governance are contained in the Integrated Bar Act, the Alaska Bar Rules (promulgated by the Supreme Court of Alaska), the Alaska Rules of Professional Conduct, the Association's Bylaws and Regulations, the Board of Governors' Policy Manual, and a Personnel Manual.

The two most important functions of the Bar are the admission and discipline of its members, both of which are carried out under the supervision of the Supreme Court of Alaska.

There are presently 9 standing committees, 22 sections, 5 bar rule committees, and special committees as appointed by the Board. In addition, the Bar Association participates in a number of adjunct organizations, and administers special projects such as the Statewide Lawyer Referral Service. More than half of the membership participates, voluntarily and without remuneration, in the affairs of the Association.

The staff of the Alaska Bar has grown from a part-time, volunteer executive secretary when it was founded in 1968, to 15 full-time professionals.



The Association is primarily funded through monies received from its members through dues, continuing legal education programs, admissions, the annual convention, the Lawyer Referral Service, and interest income. The Association received no public monies during the 2002 fiscal year.

## Principal Activities

### • Bar Examination

The Alaska Bar Examination is conducted twice each year in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Ketchikan and in such other locations as the Board may direct. It consists of: 1) one day of essay questions on Alaska law prepared by a permanent committee of the Association known as the Alaska Law Examiners; and 2) one day of objective, multiple choice questions (the Multistate Bar Examination or "MBE"), prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) and administered simultaneously in more than 40 states; and 3) a half day of the performance test (the Multistate Performance Test or "MPT") prepared by NCBE.

In 2002, 95 individuals took the Bar Exam and 51 passed the exam.

The Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE) is given separately three times a year (March, August, November).

Recent Bar Exam Results			
Date	Applicants	Passed	Pass Rate
July 2002	60	31	52%
	42 1 <sup>st</sup> timers	23	55%
Feb. 2002	35	20	57%
	23 1 <sup>st</sup> timers	14	61%
July 2001	57	36	63%
	49 1 <sup>st</sup> timers	35	71%
Feb. 2001	50	38	76%
	33 1 <sup>st</sup> timers	28	85%

“The two most important functions of the Bar are the admission and discipline of its members, both of which are carried out under the supervision of the Supreme Court of Alaska.”



## Admissions

All applicants are required to attend a course on ethics as prescribed by the Board prior to admission. The three-hour course is offered twice a year, live in Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks. Applicants may watch the course on videotape if they cannot attend one of the live programs.

All applicants must also submit an affidavit that they have read and are familiar with the Alaska Rules of Professional Conduct. (Bar Rule 64)

## ADMISSION WITHOUT EXAMINATION

Bar Rule 2, Section 2 provides an admission without examination rule, with reciprocity provisions. An applicant who has taken a written bar exam in a reciprocal jurisdiction and has engaged in the active practice of law for five of the previous seven years may be eligible for reciprocal admission.

In 2002, 24 applicants were admitted without examination.

## • Discipline of Members

The Alaska Supreme Court has held that an attorney's license to practice law is "a continuing proclamation by the Court that the holder is fit to be entrusted with professional and judicial matters...as an officer of the courts." Investigation and recommendations for professional conduct matters have been delegated by the Court to the Bar Association.

Expenditures for the Discipline Section in 2002 totaled \$637,541, a substantial allocation of Bar Association resources for the protection of the public and the administration of justice through the attorney discipline process.

## SUMMARY OF PUBLIC DISCIPLINE ACTIONS IN 2002

The Alaska Supreme Court interimly suspended *Cathleen N. McLaughlin* effective July 22, 2002. She was later disbarred effective September 27, 2002.

The Court suspended *Bonnie Coghlan* effective January 26, 2002 for one year with the entire suspension stayed provided

she successfully completes a two-year period of probation to start when she meets the conditions of the order. She is presently administratively suspended for failure to pay bar dues, and she is on disability inactive status.

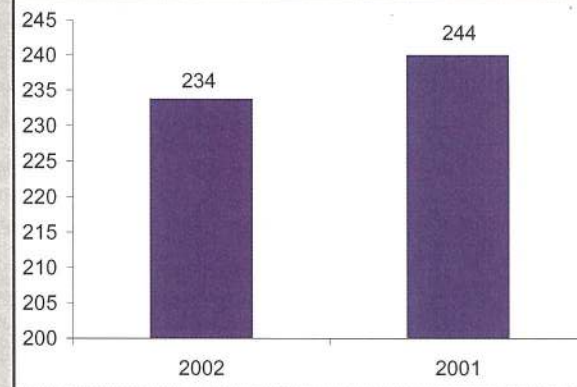
The Court suspended *Jody Sutherland* effective June 1, 2002 for three years with one year stayed, or a total of two years of actual suspension to serve on the conditions set forth in the order.

## 2002 Grievances

The number of grievance matters received declined somewhat in 2002, with 234 received by the Bar.

New Cases Opened .....	42
Grievances Not Accepted for Investigation.....	192
2002 Grievance Volume.....	234
2001 Grievance Volume.....	244

## GRIEVANCE VOLUME





### 2002 Discipline Case Statistics<sup>1</sup>

Open cases pending as of January 1, 2002 .....	88
New cases opened in 2002.....	42
<b>TOTAL open cases .....</b>	<b>130</b>

#### Cases closed in 2002

Closed after disbarment by Supreme Court.....	5
Closed after suspension by Supreme Court.....	6
Closed after probation ended.....	0
Closed after public censure by Supreme Court.....	0
Closed after reprimand publicly imposed by Disciplinary Board .....	0
Closed after reprimand privately imposed by Disciplinary Board .....	0
Closed after written private admonition by Bar Counsel.....	0
Dismissed by Bar Counsel .....	13
<b>TOTAL closed cases .....</b>	<b>24</b>

#### Open cases pending

<b>as of Dec. 31, 2002 .....</b>	<b>106</b>
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<sup>1</sup> All numbers reflect individual grievances filed and not the number of attorneys involved.

### Status of Open Cases as of December 31, 2002

Pending First Response from Respondent Attorney .....	6
Pending Complainant's Reply.....	4
Pending Second Response from Respondent Attorney .....	1
Pending Bar Counsel Investigation/Decision.....	67
Abeyance Pending Outcome of Related Court Case.....	2
Pending Mediation .....	1
Abeyance Pending Outcome of Fee Arbitration.....	0
Pending Approval to Issue Written Private Admonition .....	0
Pending Acceptance of Written Private Admonition by Respondent Attorney .....	0
Pending Approval to File Petition for Formal Hearing.....	0
Pending Stipulation for Discipline between Bar Counsel and Respondent Attorney .....	0
Pending Stipulation Consideration by Disciplinary Board .....	0
Pending Stipulation Consideration by Supreme Court.....	0
Pending before Area Hearing Committee .....	7
Pending before Disciplinary Board .....	17
Pending before Supreme Court .....	0
Respondent Attorney on Probation .....	1
<b>TOTAL open cases.....</b>	<b>106</b>

### SUMMARY OF REINSTATEMENT ACTIONS, 2002

Jon E. Wiederholt applied for reinstatement from disbarment in June 1999. Hearings were held by an area hearing committee in September and October 1999 and by the Disciplinary Board in March 2000. Oral argument was presented to the Supreme Court in September 2000. The Court rejected his petition in a published opinion in June 2001. He subsequently reapplied for reinstatement in February 2002. Hearings were held by an area hearing committee in October 2002 and by the Disciplinary Board in January 2003. The matter is presently under consideration by the Disciplinary Board.



“The Bar Association, under the Alaska Bar Rules, maintains an Attorney Fee Dispute Review Committee to hear fee disputes between attorneys and clients.”

Robert M. Beconovich was reinstated by the Court effective May 8, 2002.

## SUMMARY OF DISABILITY ACTIONS IN 2002

Ronald K. Melvin was transferred to disability inactive status effective September 12, 2002, but, unfortunately, Mr. Melvin died shortly thereafter.

## • Attorney Fee Dispute Review Committee

The Bar Association, under the Alaska Bar Rules, maintains an Attorney Fee Dispute Review Committee to hear fee disputes between attorneys and clients where such disputes have not been determined by statute or court rule or decision. Five subcommittees residing in Ketchikan, Juneau, Anchorage, Kenai and Fairbanks comprise the Committee. Each subcommittee consists of a “pool” of attorney and non-attorney members. Each subcommittee member serves for three years. From these subcommittees, a panel of two attorneys and one non-attorney is convened to hear a fee dispute. If the amount in dispute is \$5000 or less, a single panel member will hear the matter.

### 2002 Fee Arbitration Statistics

Arbitrations pending January 1, 2002 .....	32
Arbitrations opened during 2002 (+) .....	55
Arbitrations closed in 2002 (-) .....	50
Arbitrations pending January 1, 2003 .....	37

## • Lawyers’ Fund for Client Protection Committee (LFCP)

The Bar Association maintains a fund for the purpose of making reimbursement to clients who have suffered non-insured losses of money, property, or other things of value, as a result of dishonest conduct by attorneys. Dishonest conduct means acts of embezzlement, wrongful taking, or conversion of money, property, or other things of value. The monies of the Fund come from yearly assessments on active members paid at the same time as membership dues, as well as interest earned on the Fund balance.

At the close of 2002, two claims were pending review by bar counsel, and two claims were pending consideration by the LFCP Committee.

2002 LFCP Actions			
Case Number	Reimbursement(s)* Paid by Board (\$)	Reimbursement(s) Rejected by Board (\$)	Reimbursement(s) Rejected by LFCP Committee (\$)
1992L002	500		
2001L035		10,393	
2001L049	800		
2001L050			640
2001L054	800		
2001L055	750		
2002L001			0
2002L002	1,000		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>10,393</b>	<b>640</b>

\*These figures reflect reimbursements from the Fund which may be less than the amount requested by the claimant.

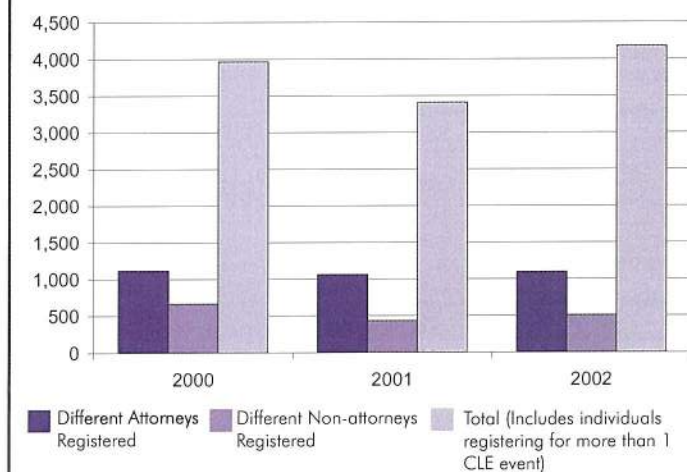
## • Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

The Continuing Legal Education Committee and the Association's Director of Continuing Legal Education are responsible for presenting and administering all CLE programs and activities.

In addition, the substantive law sections of the Bar Association are responsible for sponsoring a minimum of one CLE seminar every two years. In 2002, there were 22 active substantive law sections.

To reach all attorneys practicing in Alaska, 11 communities participate as video replay sites, receiving full audio-video presentations and CLE course materials. These sites in 2002 included Barrow, Bethel, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Sitka.

**CLE ATTENDANCE — LIVE PROGRAMS, REPLAYS, CONVENTION CLES**



## 2002 CLE PROGRAMS SUMMARY

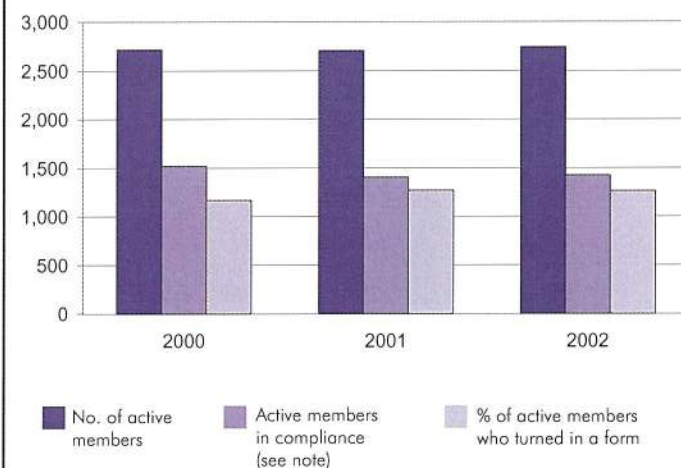
Topics .....	24
Live Bar Programs .....	33
Mandatory Ethics .....	2
Convention CLE Programs .....	16
Video Replays .....	59

## VOLUNTARY CLE (VCLE)

The Alaska Bar compiles statistics of the participation by members and presents the information to the Supreme Court. At the end of the 3-year pilot project (2002), the Supreme Court was to determine whether or not to recommend a sanction-based mandatory continuing legal education rule.

Note: This compliance number (below) also reflects members who did not turn in a form, but were nonetheless in compliance because they had adequate credits carried forward from the prior reporting year to meet the recommended minimum.

**VCLE COMPLIANCE STATISTICS 2000-2002**



## Voluntary Continuing Legal Education (VCLE)

The Voluntary CLE Rule, a 3-year pilot project, became effective September 2, 1999 and recommends a minimum of 12 hours of approved CLE credit, including one in ethics, each calendar year.

This incentive-based VCLE rule was proposed by the Alaska Supreme Court as a response to the rule proposed by the Alaska Bar. Those members complying with the VCLE rule receive a discount on Bar dues, may participate in the Lawyer Referral Service, and have their names published in a list indicating they have voluntarily met the minimum guidelines for continuing legal education recommended by the Alaska Supreme Court. The compliance or non-compliance with this rule may be taken into account in a disciplinary matter concerning competency.



“At the end of 2002, 97 attorneys were enrolled in 31 practice categories in the Lawyer Referral Service, with total referrals of 5,573 — an 8% decline from the 6,760 referrals in 2001.”

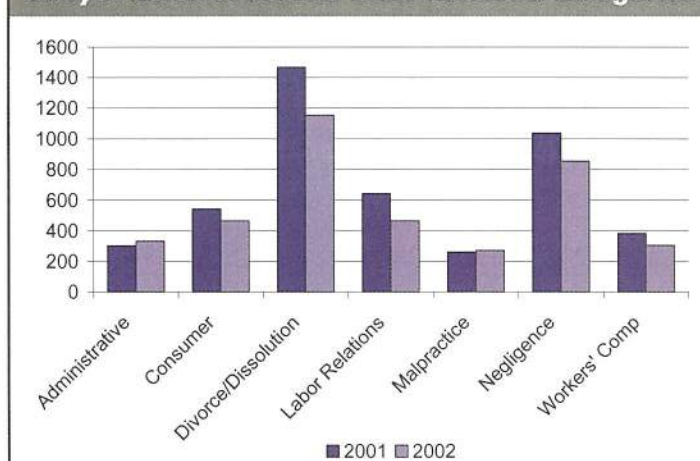
## • Lawyer Referral Service

The Bar Association operates a statewide Lawyer Referral Service for the purpose of providing the general public with names of enrolled active members of the Alaska Bar Association who are in good standing and are willing and able to accept referral clients at a reasonable fee.

Each caller requesting services is given the names of three lawyers in his/her geographic area who are listed in the category requested. Each lawyer pays a \$4 surcharge to the Bar Association on each referral made, regardless of whether the caller actually contacted the lawyer as a result of the referral. The first half-hour conference may be charged at a maximum of \$50. Thereafter the fee is agreed upon by the attorney and the client.

At the end of 2002, 97 attorneys were enrolled in 31 practice categories in the Lawyer Referral Service, with total referrals of 5,573 — an 8% decline from the 6,760 referrals in 2001.

**Lawyer Referral Service Most-Referred Categories**



## Total Lawyer Referrals

	2001	2002
Administrative	303	331
Admiralty	15	16
Adoption	54	27
Alaska Native Law	19	11
Arts	4	9
Bankruptcy	138	122
Commercial	299	185
Construction	42	36
Consumer	542	464
Criminal: Felony	214	144
Criminal: Misdemeanor	284	260
Discrimination	44	56
Divorce/Dissolution/Custody	1466	1153
Eminent Domain	1	2
Environmental	4	2
Foreign Language	2	3
Guardian/Conservator	37	29
Immigration	2	41
Insurance	102	89
Labor Relations	642	464
Landlord/Tenant	296	215
Malpractice	261	271
Military	27	0
Mining	-	-
Negligence	1037	856
Patent/Copyright	43	-
Public Interest	1	5
Real Estate	231	230
SSI Cases	-	18
Tax	-	34
Traffic	57	24
Trusts/Wills/Estates	211	171
Workers' Compensation	382	305
	<b>6,760</b>	<b>5,573</b>
	-5%	-8%
	(Change from 2000)	(Change from 2001)



## • Committees of the Alaska Bar

Substantial work is accomplished through the extensive committee structure of the Alaska Bar Association.

Governance is structured around the Board of Governors and its Standing and Bar Rule Committees, and the Substantive Law Sections, with administrative and day-to-day activity as the responsibility of the Executive Director and staff.

Committees of the Bar\* include:

- **The Bar Rules Committees**, which include the Committee of Law Examiners; Disciplinary Hearing Committee; Mediation Panel; Attorney Fee Dispute Review Committee; and Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection Committee.
- **The Standing Committees**, including Bar Polls and Elections; Continuing Legal Education; Ethics; Bar Historians; Law Related Education; Pro Bono Services; Lawyers' Assistance; and Alaska Rules of Professional Conduct.
- **The Substantive Law Sections**, are comprised of 22 peer groups practicing in 22 areas of the law.

\*See the Appendix for 2002 Committee Chairs and Substantive Law Sections.

## Membership Services

In addition to services associated with CLE and other activity areas, the Bar Association also provides other programs to assist members of the Bar in their practices.

Some of these include:

- **ALPS (Attorney Liability Protection Society).** The Alaska Bar Association is a member of a multi-state lawyer-owned insurance company. Membership in ALPS increases the availability of coverage to Alaska lawyers at rates that are predictable and which avoid fluctuations based on policies and practices over which the lawyers have no control.
- **Computerized Legal Research.** The Bar Association sponsors a group program to provide members with access to LEXIS, a computer-assisted legal research service. Participating firms pay a \$25 monthly subscription fee. Additionally, all members' use of LEXIS aggregates to take advantage of volume discounts.
- **Group Insurance.** The Bar Association sponsors a life insurance program for Bar members with States West Life Insurance Company. All members of the Association and employees of their firms are eligible. The Bar Association also sponsors a group medical program. Medical, dental, vision, life and disability coverage are available to firms ranging in size from sole practitioners to 100 employees or more. The plan is underwritten by Blue Cross of Washington and Alaska. The Bar Association also sponsors a disability insurance program offered by Unum/Providence Insurance Co.

“In addition to services associated with CLE and other activity areas, the Bar Association also provides other programs to assist members of the Bar in their practices.”

“The Alaska Bar Association cooperates, partners, and supports with its membership a number of programs related to the Alaska legal and justice systems.”

- **The Alaska Bar Rag.** The official publication of the Bar Association is the *Alaska Bar Rag*, published bi-monthly. The editor is Thomas V. Van Flein.
- **Section News.** This newsletter is published monthly and goes to all active members of all of the substantive law sections. It contains notices of section meetings and CLE seminars.
- **Ethics Opinions.** All Alaska Bar Ethics Opinions are available online at the Bar's website, <http://www.alaskabar.org>.
- **Public Copying Machines in the Law Library.** The Alaska Bar Association and the Alaska Court System are continuing a cooperative agreement to provide copying services in the Anchorage Law Library. The Alaska Bar Association has a service agreement with the Anchorage Bar Association for the purpose of providing copiers in the Anchorage Law Library for the use of all library patrons. The revenue is divided as follows: Alaska Court System 40%; Anchorage Bar Association 50%; Alaska Bar Association 10%.
- **Jury Instructions.** The Alaska Bar Association, in cooperation with the Alaska Court System, has sold copies of the Alaska Pattern Civil and Criminal Jury Instructions since 1984. Since 1994, the civil instructions have been offered for sale on disk.

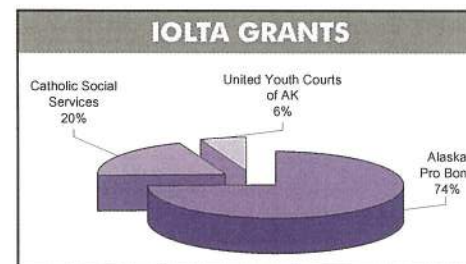
## • Adjunct Involvement

The Alaska Bar Association cooperates, partners, and supports with its membership a number of programs related to the Alaska legal and justice systems:

- **The Alaska Bar Foundation**, established in 1972 for the purpose of fostering and maintaining the honor and integrity of the profession, improving and facilitating the administration of justice, promoting the study of law and continuing legal education, administering loans and scholarships, and maintaining a law library and research center.
- **IOLTA** is an opt-out Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts program for the placement of client trust money into interest-bearing accounts. The interest earned on each account is paid periodically to the Alaska Bar Foundation for its charitable and public service work.

The IOLTA program earned \$83,101 from interest in 2002.

In 2002, the Foundation made the following grants: \$90,000 to the Alaska Pro Bono Program; \$24,000 to Catholic Social Services; \$7,000 to the United Youth Courts of Alaska.





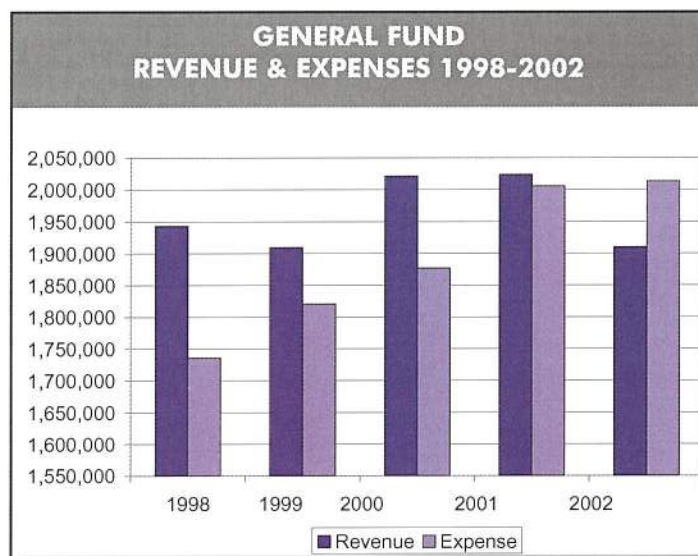
- **Alaska Law Review**, edited by law students at Duke University School of Law in Durham, NC, includes articles by practicing attorneys, law professors, and notes and comments by Duke law students. The Bar publishes the *Review* for the benefit of the legal community. Bar members receive this semi-annual publication as part of their bar dues.
- **Alaska Legal Services Corporation** provides legal assistance to persons lacking the financial capability to obtain private counsel.
- **Alaska Code Revision Commission**, established in 1976, reviews and recommends revisions to the laws of Alaska.
- **Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct** includes three attorney members who have practiced law in the state for at least 10 years. They are appointed to the Commission by the Governor from recommendations submitted by the Board of Governors.
- **Alaska Judicial Council** includes three attorneys who serve staggered six-year terms. The Council's purpose is to recommend candidates for judicial office and to conduct studies for the improvement of the administration of justice in Alaska.
- **Other Relationships.** The Bar Association maintains relationships with other, non-Alaskan organizations, usually with representation by a member of the Board of Governors or Bar executive staff. These include the American Bar Association, National Conference of Bar Presidents, Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, and Western States Bar Conference.

## Financial Statements & Budget

Total revenue received for all activities funds during the 2002 calendar year was \$2,001,252, with all expenses totalling \$2,032,834.

The 2002 financial report reflects a total general fund revenue of \$1,906,476, with total general fund expenses of \$2,015,035, for a net loss of \$108,559 in this operations fund.

At the end of the year, net assets were \$2,706,420, compared with net assets of \$2,738,002 at the beginning of the year.





Daniel, Hewko  
& Tharp

Certified Public Accountants • A Professional Corporation

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Governors  
Alaska Bar Association

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the General Fund, Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and the Court System Library Fund of the Alaska Bar Association as of December 31, 2002, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the General Fund, Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection and the Court System Library Fund of the Alaska Bar Association as of December 31, 2002, and the changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Daniel, Hewko & Tharp*

Anchorage, Alaska  
February 18, 2003

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended December 31, 2002

UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	General Fund	Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection	Court System Library Fund	Total All Funds
Revenue and Other Income				
Dues	\$ 1,332,811	\$ 29,362	\$ -	\$ 1,362,173
Admission fees	156,055	-	-	156,055
Continuing legal education	111,740	-	-	111,740
Lawyer referral fees	59,462	-	-	59,462
Annual meeting	97,071	-	-	97,071
Earnings on investments	100,098	47,876	139	148,113
Other	48,990	-	-	48,990
Gain on disposal of assets	606	-	-	606
Unrealized (loss) gain on investments	(357)	17,399	-	17,042
Total unrestricted revenue	1,906,476	94,637	139	2,001,252
Expenses				
Admissions	163,646	-	-	163,646
Board of Governors	37,540	-	-	37,540
Discipline	637,541	-	-	637,541
Fee arbitration	53,548	-	-	53,548
Lawyer referral	45,682	-	-	45,682
Continuing legal education	352,630	-	-	352,630
Administration	378,678	-	-	378,678
Voluntary CLE	67,887	-	-	67,887
Annual meeting	105,371	-	-	105,371
Claims awarded	-	5,583	-	5,583
Research resources	-	-	11,904	11,904
Other	172,512	300	12	172,824
Total expenses	2,015,035	5,883	11,916	2,032,834
Increase (decrease) in net unrestricted assets	(108,559)	88,754	(11,777)	(31,582)
Net assets, beginning of year	1,728,258	984,299	25,445	2,738,002
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,619,699	\$ 1,073,053	\$ 13,668	\$ 2,706,420

The full Independent Auditor's Report and accompanying financial statements and notes are available for inspection at the Bar Association office.



## APPENDIX A

### **Bar Rules and Bylaws Proposed, Added, Modified, or Repealed in 2002**

#### **Bylaws, Article V, Section 6**

The Board amended the Bylaws, Article V, Section 6, effective August 22, 2002 to count the number of "votes" cast rather than "ballots" cast in determining the candidates for a runoff election and the winners of runoff elections for the Board. Subsequently, the Board modified this bylaw effective January 24, 2003 to eliminate runoff elections altogether. In other words, if two Board seats are up for election, the two candidates with the highest votes will be seated.

#### **Bar Rule 4(5)**

The Alaska Supreme Court amended Bar Rule 4(5) to limit review of Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) and Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) materials to the applicant's answer sheet, scores, and the correct answer key. In addition, a passing applicant may be informed of the applicant's MBE score upon written request to the Executive Director.

#### **Bar Rule 5(1)(a)(2)**

The Court amended Bar Rule 5(1)(a)(2) to reflect that an applicant must obtain a scaled score of 80 to pass the MPRE. The required score had previously appeared only in the Board's Standing Policy regarding the bar exam.

#### **Bar Rule 29**

The Court amended Bar Rule 29 effective October 15, 2002 regarding reinstatement to: add a waiting period of two years from the denial of reinstatement before an attorney may reapply for reinstatement; to expand the period qualifying for automatic reinstatement from a one year suspension to a two year suspension; and to change the time periods in which bar counsel may object to automatic reinstatement. At the same time, the Court rejected amendments to Bar Rules 16 and 29 which would have provided for permanent disbarment after an effective date.

#### **Bar Rules 31(1) and 54**

The Court amended Bar Rules 31(g)(3) and 54 effective April 15, 2002 to permit payment of trustee counsel compensation to be made by the Board from the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection.

#### **Rule of Professional Conduct 3.6**

The Court rejected a proposed amendment to Alaska Rule of Professional Conduct 3.6 regarding trial publicity that was designed to address constitutional deficiencies with the rule. The Court advised that it preferred to consider any amendment to Rule 3.6 at the same time as it considers the Board's recommendations regarding the American Bar Association's Ethics 2000 amendments to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

#### **Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1**

The Court amended Alaska Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1 effective April 15, 2003 to conform the rule to the American Bar Association's Model Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1 and to provide that attorneys should aspire to render at least 50 hours of pro bono services.

#### **Bar Rule 34(c)(4)**

Regarding fee arbitration, the Court amended Bar Rule 34(c)(4) effective April 15, 2003 to conform the rule to the three-year statute of limitations for contract actions presently in the Alaska Statutes. The Court also corrected a citation error in Bar Rule 38(c)(4) effective, April 15, 2003.

## APPENDIX B

### Bar Sections & Committees

#### Substantive Sections and Chairs, 2002

At the end of 2002 there were 22 active sections.

The Sections, Chairs and Co-Chairs at the end of 2002 follow:

##### **Administrative Law**

Dave Ingram

##### **Admiralty Law**

Steve Shamburek

##### **Alaska Native Law**

Mark Andrews & Carl Johnson

##### **Alternate Dispute Resolution**

Drew Peterson

##### **Bankruptcy Law**

John Siemers

##### **Business Law**

Bob Hume & Krista Stearns

##### **Corporate Counsel**

Marc Bond & Marcia Davis

##### **Elder Law**

Una Gandbhir

##### **Employment Law**

Barbara Jones & Tom Daniel

##### **Environmental/Natural Resources Law**

J.P. Tangen

##### **Estate Planning/Probate Law**

Caroline Wanamaker

##### **Family Law**

Lori Ann Colbert & S.J. Lee

##### **Gender Equality**

Chief Justice Dana Fabe, Bob Bundy & Judge

Patricia Collins

##### **Immigration Law**

Kathy Atkinson & Mara Kimmel

##### **Intellectual Property Law**

Michael Jungries & John McKay

##### **International Law**

Dan Lowery

##### **Law & Community Health**

Colleen Ray and Barbara Malchick

##### **Public Interest Law**

Katherine Alteneder & Nicholas Kittleson

##### **Real Estate Law**

Jim Stanley & Ann Liburd

##### **Tax Law**

Charles Schuetze

##### **Torts/Personal Injury Law (formerly Torts)**

Jim Leik

##### **Workers' Comp**

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