

May 14, 2003

Welcome to Brasstown Valley Judge:

- 1) Much thanks to **President Clayton** for her hard work and best wishes to **incoming President Vines** for a prosperous year.
- 2) Enclosed, please find the **Business Meeting 2002 minutes** from our Fall Conference at Jekyll Island.
- 3) Judge Doremus, Chair, Uniform Rules Committee, asked that I enclose **Proposed Uniform Court Rule 9 (Telephone and Video Conferencing)** for your information.
- 4) Enclosed is a letter providing the **base pay for Superior Court judges** for Fiscal Year 2004 (2003-2004) for those of you tied to it.
- 5) Enclosed is a letter from **Charles Thomas, our lobbyist**.
- 6) As there might be a proposed Constitutional Amendment, I am enclosing a **copy of our current Constitution** for your convenience.
- 7) I am also enclosing the most current copy of our **Committee membership** in case you desire or incoming President Vines wishes to make any changes.
- 8) **Appellate Reception at Amelia Island** – Your formal invitation is enclosed. Please note the time change of the reception (5:00pm – 7:00pm on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>) and don't forget about our Saturday morning meeting at 9:00am where we will have breakfast provided for you. If you are planning on attending and have not sent me your reimbursement situation yet, I have also enclosed another copy and please give to me at Brasstown or fax it to me upon your return. We hope that you will have the opportunity to attend!
- 9) As mentioned in the newsletter, I will be publishing the **updated State Court directory** this summer. If you have not sent me your picture yet, please do so. Also, for the first time we will have a section for former State Court judges to let you know of their whereabouts as well as to keep them a part of the State Court family. If you have any information on former judges (specifically name, county where they were a State Court judge and current contact number), please let me know and I will track them down.

- 10) Enclosed is the final conference committee version of House Bill 770 (**Indigent Defense**) which has passed both the House and Senate, and is awaiting the Governor's signature as I write.
- 11) **Reimbursement** – Per our regular procedure to make things easier for you, please put all of your reimbursement on ICJE's voucher and Rich and I will work out the details.
- 12) **The Board of Court Reporting** is seeking a State Court Judge to be appointed in July 2003. The Board is comprised of one State Court Judge, one Superior Court Judge, two attorneys, and five court reporters. The By-Laws require that we meet at least quarterly each year. The Board is primarily a licensing and regulatory agency and operates under the Judicial Council. Duties include: inquiries into complaints, conducting disciplinary hearings, attending regularly scheduled meetings, and creating and developing the twice-yearly exams. Much of the work is completed via email whenever possible to expedite complaints and resolve issues between meetings. There are other opportunities to be involved in other committees and though committee work is not mandatory. They try to hold meetings in different places around the state and all expenses are reimbursed by the Board. Any person interested in these positions must have at least five years experience in his or her respective profession. Please let Stephan know ASAP if you are interested and, also, the Board would love to have a representative from South Georgia. Further information can be obtained from Judge Peppers who is our outgoing representative to this Board.
- 13) Enjoy giving out the enclosed **certificate** to those you deem appropriate.

Best wishes and have a great conference!!!!!!!!!!

Respectfully Yours,

Stephan J. Frank, Esq.  
Executive Director

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?