

**THE FLORIDA BAR  
TRIAL LAWYERS SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
May 2, 2008  
Colorado Springs, Colorado**

The Florida Bar Trial Lawyers Executive Council met on Friday May 2, 2008 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Chair Robert Palmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The minutes were taken by Glenn Burton.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members of the Executive Council were present: Robert Palmer, Cliff Higby, Glenn Burton, Robert Mansbach, Sandy Sanborn, Craig Gibbs, Jim Clark, Eileen Moss, Frank Bedell, Courtney Grimm, John Williams, and Wayne Helsby. Also appearing were W. Paige Graham and Yvonne Sherron from The Florida Bar. Bob Harris appeared telephonically.

The following members of the Executive Council were absent: Norman Vaughn-Birch, Kim Ashby, Kay Simpson, Kim Cook, Jon Lynn, Tim Sullivan, Jep Barbour, Bill Fuller, Chris Knopik, Ed Cheffy and Bill Hahn.

The minutes of the January 18, 2008 Meeting of the Executive Council were read and approved by all.

**I. Financial Report** – A Financial Report as of April 8, 2008 was presented and approved.

**II. CLE Committee Report** - The Damages Seminar was cancelled due to low registrations. There was great discussion about the Seminar as to why the low turnout and ways to improve the situation. A recommendation will be made at our next meeting about rescheduling the Seminar. Our next seminar is the Trial Advocacy Seminar is May, 6<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> in Mecca. (Gainesville Florida). We have a strong registration and look forward to another outstanding Seminar. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**III. Discovery Handbook 2008** – A lively discussion was had over the Committee recommendation that a chapter on E- Discovery be added to the Handbook. It was decided that this was an excellent idea and it will be added. Cliff Higby volunteered to author the chapter and sign on for another 12 years on this Council to Sheppard the project. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**IV. Membership Committee Report** – Work continues on the inaugural report. It is anticipated that this stellar report will contain creative new ideas to strengthen our membership to new heights. This report will be given at the June meeting. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**V. Legislative Committee Report** – Bob Harris reported on the final day of the Legislative Session. No bills passed that adversely affect access to the Courts. The only negative was the

budget for the Judiciary. Budget cuts were made despite raises in Court fees that could have prevented cuts. Apparently some legislators thought it wise to redirect the revenue to other concerns. The Council is gravely concerned about this and will contemplate our response. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**VI. Website Committee Report** – Considerable work has been done for our website. Phase 1 has been to clean up the immense mess created by our former Web Company. This is now accomplished. We are now entering Phase 2 which calls for redesigning our site. It will have easy access to many important links for our members. Phase 3 will be an evaluation of the costs for adding features we want. Then Phase 4 will be final decisions by the Council and the features will be implemented. Phase 5 will be a long restful vacation for Eileen which she truly will have earned. This vacation will be fully funded by incoming chair Frank “Mr. Generous” Bedell. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**VII. Old Business** – No old business was presented. Sanborn moved to adjourn. No second received.

**VIII. New Business** – A discussion was had about departing Council members and replacing them. Members with expiring terms include Ed Cheffy, Jep Barbour, Jim Clark, Bob Mansbach and Bill Hahn. There is some confusion as to whether Sandy Sanborn’s term is expiring this year or next. In any event we have requested that if he is termed out that he be assigned as our Board Liaison. Inspired and greatly moved by this unanimous gesture Sanborn moved to adjourn. A second was received and the meeting was adjourned.

**IX. Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted, Glenn Burton