

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LAWYER DISCIPLINARY BOARDS  
FIRST ANNUAL MEETING**

**Thursday, February 5, 2004**

**PROGRAM**

10:00 - 10:15 a.m. **Welcome**

Gaines West (Former Chairman, Texas Board of Disciplinary Appeals)

10:15 - 10:30 a.m. **Introduction**

Ronald W. Stovitz (Presiding Judge, California State Bar Court)

10:30 - 12:00 Noon **Supporting & Sustaining A Volunteer System**

Elizabeth J. Branda (Executive Attorney, D.C. Board on Professional Responsibility - Moderator)

Recruiting volunteers, training new volunteers, keeping volunteers updated on new developments in the law, rewarding volunteer service, supporting your volunteers, recognizing retiring volunteers, and the role of staff in volunteer service.

Panelists: Ellyn Rosen (ABA Center for Professional Responsibility); Donna L. Roberts (Administrator, Louisiana Attorney Discipline Board); and Marvin J. Rudnitsky (Member, Pennsylvania Disciplinary Board)

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. **Group Lunch**

1:30 - 2:15 p.m. **What's Hot!**

Ronald W. Stovitz (Moderator)

A discussion of current topics and issues of interest to disciplinary adjudicators and staff.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. **Break**

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Plea Bargaining/Negotiated Dispositions**

Does plea bargaining open the disciplinary system up to charges of "cutting deals" and charges of the profession protecting its own, what is its impact on system as a whole, does it encourage Bar Counsel to focus on investigating the most serious cases?

Panelists: John F. Van Bolt (Executive Director, Michigan Attorney Discipline Board); Scott J. Drexel (Admin. Officer/Chief Court Counsel, California State Bar Court); and Laura Chastain (Deputy Chief Disciplinary Counsel, Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility)

3:30 - 3:45 p.m. **Break**

3:45 - 5:00 p.m. **Business Meeting**