

AGENDA ITEM

SEPTEMBER 30-1

(Organization Meeting)
Proposed Multi-Year
Board Meeting Schedule

DATE: September 17, 2008

TO: The 2008-09 Members of the Board of Governors

FROM: Judy Johnson

SUBJECT: Proposed Multi-Year Board Meeting Schedule

SUMMARY:

At the Board's Organization at the Annual Meeting each year, the Board approves its multi-year Board meeting schedule, which projects meetings three years in advance.

At its May 16, 2008, in San Jose, the Board discussed the financial and logistical feasibility of holding meetings off site to better reach the membership. However, after much discussion, the Board agreed that all meetings, with the exception of the Board Planning Session, should be held at the Bar's offices in either San Francisco or Los Angeles. Consequently, the Board adopted a resolution approving the multi-year Board meeting schedule for the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 presented at that meeting.

The Bar has only recently contracted with hotels and the Convention Center in San Diego for the 2011 Annual Meeting, and you are requested to approve the dates and venue, which are bolded on the attached schedule. The Board is also requested to approve the meetings for Board year 2011-12.

BACKGROUND:

Several years ago, the Board requested that staff explore the feasibility of scheduling Board meetings several years in advance. At its August 26, 2000, meeting, the Board unanimously approved a multi-year Board meeting schedule, which is revisited each year at the Board's Organization Meeting.

Prior to setting these dates, taken into account are the Bar's holiday schedules, various religious holidays, ABA meetings, Western States Bar Conferences, all State Bar meetings, i.e., SEI, Spring Summit, etc. Several of the meetings are not confirmed years in advance, but, over the years, we have been able to predict a trend and have made the necessary allowances when scheduling Board meetings. The advantages of scheduling Board meetings for years in advance are multi-fold:

- It will facilitate your calendar organization years in advance.

- The Bar will be in a better position to reserve conference meeting rooms.
- For the past number of years, the Bar has experienced difficulty in contracting with hotels; our group is small and does not meet frequently. As you are aware, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get affordable sleeping accommodations. By scheduling Board meetings several years in advance, the Bar will be in a stronger position to enter into multi-year contracts with hotels and, hopefully, obtain better rates.
- Flights for the meetings can be arranged well in advance.
- As stated, not only would this be a negotiating tool for hotel contracts, but it would also be extremely helpful to the numerous volunteers who currently sit on our committees and who would, like you, be able to plan their calendars for several years.

Attached are the proposed schedules of Board meetings for the years 2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11, which, as stated, were approved by the Board as recently as last May. We have added the meeting dates for the year 2011-12. As in the past, some information was not available for that year, but should be available by next year, when this will again go to the Board, should there be any amendments.

This item will be discussed at your Organization Meeting on Sunday, September 28, 2008; it would be helpful if you would kindly check your calendars in advance of that meeting regarding your availability for the meetings listed on the multi-year meeting schedule.

FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted annually.

PERSONNEL IMPACT: None.

BOARD BOOK IMPACT: None.

STATE BAR RULES IMPACT: None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Should the Board agree with the proposal, it would be in order to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the schedule of Board meetings for the years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12, in the form attached to these minutes and made a part hereof.