

**Regional Task Force on Emergency Preparedness and
Disaster Planning Tentative Compact
On Shared Efforts, Policies and Services
In The Event Of Disaster**

The Mid-Atlantic Bar Conference has joined together to examine the issue of disaster planning and its wider impact on the citizens, lawyers and governments of its member states in an effort to better serve those constituencies in the event of disaster. The conference is represented by the Delaware State Bar Association, the Bar of the District of Columbia, the Maryland Bar Association, the New Jersey State Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. In addition, the conference has invited the following additional major associations within those states to participate in this unified effort including the Baltimore Bar Association, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the Essex County Bar Association, and the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Toward that end, the Conference has empowered representatives to serve of on Regional Task Force Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Planning whose duties shall be:

- To review the American Bar Association Model Rule and determine if that proposal or a version of that proposal is acceptable to all parties involved which each may advance to their Supreme Court rulemaking authority for adoption with the knowledge that agreement has been forged by MABC members and additional constituencies.
- To examine proposals and policies within each state which might impact upon the provision of shared services and assistance in the event of a disaster in order to plan for such events and break down any unforeseen barriers to providing such services.
- To examine the areas in which interstate services may be shared including providing bar association members with meaningful shared benefits and information, providing assistance to non-members attorneys, offering limited legal services to the general public in the event of a disaster, and providing assistance to local , state and federal government entities in the event of a disaster.
- To memorialize such efforts in a regional compact wherein bar associations and their members can gain a familiarity with what services and alternative processes are available for members, clients and the general public in the event of a disaster.
- To relay information on such a compact to and from local bar associations within each mid-Atlantic bar state, and to coordinate disaster planning efforts with those local bar associations in each state.

- To share that compact with governmental intrastate and interstate governmental entities to forge a better understanding and a cooperative relationship in the event of a disaster and to encourage the continued liaison between such agencies.

Signatories (Not approved by a particular bar association until the date of Board approval is affixed below name)

Lynn Fontaine Newsome
President
New Jersey State Bar Association
July 13, 2007

Elizabeth M. McGeever
Delaware State Bar Association

James J. Sandman
The District of Columbia Bar

Alison L. Asti
Maryland State Bar Association

Kathryn Grant Madigan
New York State Bar Association

Kenneth J. Horoho, Jr.
Pennsylvania Bar Association

Jane L. Dalton
Philadelphia Bar Association