The American Bar Association Death Penalty Representation Project and Hofstra University School of Law present

“Strengthening the Guiding Hand of Counsel: Reforming Capital Defense Systems”

Friday, October 24, 2003
8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.


Defense attorney Samuel Leibowitz meets with his clients; Scottsboro, Alabama (1933).

Photo credit: Brown Brothers, Sterling, PA.
“Strengthening the Guiding Hand of Counsel: Reforming Capital Defense Systems”

Friday, October 24, 2003
Hofstra University School of Law
Hempstead, New York

Much has been said and written about the inadequacy of capital defense systems and the poor quality of lawyers who represent those charged with or convicted of capital crimes. Death penalty jurisdictions have generally refused to undertake the kind of serious, dedicated effort that is required to ensure that poor people receive competent legal representation. Although the problems are obvious, little has been proposed by way of solutions.

This academic conference, co-hosted by the American Bar Association and Hofstra University School of Law, will unveil a national initiative toward significant reform of capital defense systems in death penalty jurisdictions. The conference will coincide with publication of a special issue of the Hofstra Law Review featuring the revised ABA Guidelines for the Appointment and Performance of Defense Counsel in Death Penalty Cases. ABA President Dennis Archer and state bar presidents and representatives from several death penalty jurisdictions will announce their commitment toward achieving the necessary reforms, including adoption of the ABA Guidelines.
“Strengthening the Guiding Hand of Counsel: Reforming Capital Defense Systems”


HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
Friday, October 24, 2003

8:30-9 a.m.
Breakfast and Registration for CLE credits
School of Law, Third Floor Corridor

9-9:15 a.m.
Welcome
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

David N. Yellen
Dean and Max Schmerz Distinguished Professor of Law
Hofstra University School of Law

Ethical Obligations of Counsel in Capital Cases
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

Lawrence J. Fox, Esq.
Drinker Biddle & Reath

Professor Monroe H. Freedman
Howard Lichtenstein Distinguished Professor of Legal Ethics
Hofstra University School of Law

Professor Roy D. Simon
Hofstra University School of Law

Adequate Funding and Resources for Capital Defender Systems and Counsel
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

Professor Eric M. Freedman
Hofstra University School of Law
Reporter, ABA Capital Defense Representation Guidelines

Jim Marcus, Esq.
Texas Defender Service

Randy Susskind, Esq.
Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama

CONFERENCE HOTEL
The Long Island Marriott Hotel and Conference Center has made rooms available for the evening of October 23 at a special rate for conference attendees. All hotel reservations will be handled directly through the hotel.

Long Island Marriott Hotel and Conference Center
101 James Doolittle Blvd.
Uniondale, NY 11553
ATTN: Reservations Manager
Tel: (516) 794-3800 or (800) 832-6253
Fax: (516) 794-5936
Rate: $169
Deadline for reservations: October 10

When making reservations, please identify yourself as a participant in the Hofstra Law/ABA Death Penalty Conference. If you prefer to stay in Manhattan during the conference, you may wish to make reservations through: www.hotels.com or www.hoteldiscounts.com.

LOCATION OF HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
Hofstra University is located in Hempstead, Long Island, New York, about 25 miles east of New York City, less than an hour away by train or automobile. The campus is located approximately 30 minutes by car from either John F. Kennedy International Airport or LaGuardia Airport.

GETTING HERE BY CAR
From Eastern Long Island: Take Northern State Parkway to Meadowbrook Parkway South (exit 31A), or Southern State Parkway to Meadowbrook Parkway North (exit 22N). Take Meadowbrook Parkway to exit M4 (Hempstead Turnpike). Follow Hempstead Turnpike (Route 24) west to Hofstra, approximately 1 1/2 miles. Turn left onto California Avenue. Take California Avenue approximately 1/4 mile to the School of Law.

From New York City: Take the Long Island Expressway to exit 38, Northern State Parkway, to Meadowbrook Parkway South (exit 31A), or Southern State Parkway to Meadowbrook Parkway North (exit 22N). Take Meadowbrook Parkway to exit M4 (Hempstead Turnpike). Follow Hempstead Turnpike (Route 24) west to Hofstra, approximately 1 1/2 miles. Turn left onto California Avenue. Take California Avenue approximately 1/4 mile to the School of Law.

TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORTS
Please call for reservations in advance:
Horizon Transportation Service
Personalized Transportation Service (516) 538-4891

Executive Limousine
Personalized Transportation Service (516) 485-4399

U.S. Limousine and Car Service
Personalized Transportation Service (516) 352-2225 or (800) 962-2827

NOTE: There are no official fares charged by New York City yellow cabs between the airports and the Hofstra campus. Please confirm fee with driver before starting your trip.

TRANSPORTATION VIA RAIL ROAD:
The Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) has frequent commuter service to the Hempstead Station from Pennsylvania Station, located at 34th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City, and Flatbush Avenue Station in Brooklyn, New York. The Hofstra University courtesy bus meets most trains at the Hempstead Station, or you may call for local taxi service to the Hofstra campus.

All Island Transportation
(516) 481-1111

Ollie’s Airport Service
(516) 437-0505, (516) 352-6633 or (718) 229-5454

Pub Taxi Service
(516) 483-4433

Jim Marcus, Esq.
Texas Defender Service
3:45-4:45 p.m. Break-out Sessions:

1. The Growing Significance of International Law in Capital Cases
   Room 242

   Professor Peter J. Spiro
   Hofstra University School of Law

   Professor Richard J. Wilson
   American University, Washington College of Law
   Director, International Human Rights Clinic

2. The Importance of Post-Conviction Review
   Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

   Professor Alafair S. Burke
   Hofstra University School of Law

   Professor James S. Liebman
   Simon H. Rifkind Professor of Law
   Columbia Law School

   Robin M. Maher, Esq.
   Director, ABA Death Penalty Representation Project

4:45-5:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

Professor Barry C. Scheck
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
Yeshiva University

Death Row Exoneree
“Vindicating Claims of Innocence”

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please register for the conference by completing the tear-off card below. You can also register by telephone or e-mail. The conference is free to all attendees.

Continuing Legal Education Credits

Hofstra University School of Law is an accredited New York State CLE provider. For those who attend the full-day program, 7.5 CLE credit hours are available for New York lawyers and lawyers from any state that accepts New York CLE credits. Of the 7.5 CLE credit hours, 1.2 hours will be in ethics credits. Inquiries should be directed to Rebecca M. Coffee, Esq. (CoffeeR@staff.abanet.org, telephone (202) 662-1735, fax (202) 662-8649).

To register for the conference, please return the tear-off card below, or contact Dawn Marzella, Director of Special Projects, Hofstra University School of Law, by 5 p.m., Wednesday, October 15, 2003:

- Phone: (516) 463-6889
- E-mail: LAWDMM@hofstra.edu

The special issue of the Hofstra Law Review containing the text of the revised ABA Guidelines for the Appointment and Performance of Defense Counsel in Death Penalty Cases, the official commentary, and articles by conference faculty members, may be obtained at the conference, by contacting the Hofstra Law Review Managing Office at (516) 463-5910, lawreview@hofstra.edu, or by returning the card below.

RESPONSE CARD:

“Strengthening the Guiding Hand of Counsel: Reforming Capital Defense Systems”
Friday, October 24, 2003

Name

Firm/Organization

Address

City State Zip

Telephone Number E-mail

☑ Please register me for the conference.

☑ I cannot attend but would like to receive:
☐ the conference proceedings on ☐ audiotape ☐ videotape
☐ the Hofstra Law Review special issue
11:30 a.m.-Noon

Special Reception With American Bar Association President Dennis Archer, State Bar Representatives, and Members of the Press
Leeds Morelli & Brown Atrium, Second Floor

Remarks:

Dennis Archer
President
American Bar Association
"Reforms of Capital Defense Systems and Adoption of the ABA Guidelines"

Recognition of the 100th pro bono law firm team recruited by the ABA Death Penalty Representation Project

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Luncheon and Keynote Address
Leeds Morelli & Brown Atrium, Second Floor

Introduction:

Stuart Rabinowitz
President
Andrew M. Boas and Mark L. Claster Distinguished Professor of Law
Hofstra University

Keynote Address

1:30-2:30 p.m.

Wiggins v. Smith and the Importance of Mitigation and Mitigation Specialists in Capital Cases
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

Pamela Blume Leonard
Chief Death Penalty Mitigation Specialist
Multi-County Public Defender Office
Atlanta, GA

Jill Miller
Forensic Social Work Services
Madison, WI

Russell Stetler
Director of Investigations
New York Capital Defender Office

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Independence of the Judiciary and the Appointment of Counsel
Sidney R. Siben and Walter Siben Moot Courtroom, Room 308

Denise LeBoeuf, Esq.
Capital Post Conviction Project of Louisiana

Ronald J. Tabak, Esq.
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
Chair, Death Penalty Committee
ABA Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities