General Practice Section Annual Report of the Chair for 2009

The General Practice Section counsel devoted time this year to reaching out to other sections, reviewing proposals for legislation and court rules, and improving availability of services to Section members.

Work on the procedural steps required to propose a change of the name of the Section from General Practice Section to General Practice and Small Firm Section.

This is our sixth year of working with ICLE (and now the State Bar) to produce and promote an annual seminar series (The Solo and Small Firm Institute) specifically geared toward solo and small firms practice and opportunities. The Section contributed \$2,000 to be allocated as one-day of attendance (\$80 value) scholarships for Section members who apply. The plan is to evaluate the success of this program and modify or continue it as appropriate.

We were pleased to comply with the request of the University of Michigan Library to complement their collection of our newsletter, The General Practitioner.

We began a practice of meeting with leaders of other Sections and adjunct resources to investigate joint projects and seminar possibilities. Amad Elsayed spoke of translation and interpretation challenges; Marjorie Manian and Susan Gasparian of the Armenian American Bar attended our monthly Counsel meeting.

We are currently investigating the relevance of being a licensed Attorney and/or being in practice for an extended period with respect to obtaining a Real Estate Broker's License.

Submitted May 31, 2009

Clark S. Davis, Chair