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Re: President's Report - July 2007

Dear Crawford Members:

The summer is here and Crawford's work is well underway! We began our term in June by attending a number of events, including the following: SABAC's Inaugural Annual Banquet (June 7); Judge Vanessa L. Bryant's Investiture as the first African-American woman to become United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut (June 15); The Amistad Foundation's Annual Juneteenth Gala (June 15); and the ABA National Conference for the Minority Lawyer (June 28-29). We also held the Crawford Executive Board Retreat to plan and approve our calendar of events for the year ahead (June 30). Thank you to all who participated in these events.

Upcoming Events

We recently forwarded information to you about the **United States Supreme Court school diversity decision, Parents Involved In Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1**. This decision may have drastic consequences for diversity plans in several public school systems across the nation. Crawford plans to host a panel discussion in the coming weeks examining the legal impact of the decision and new strategies for achieving diverse school populations in light of the decision. Additional details on the panel discussion are forthcoming.

Please mark your calendars for our **Second Annual Golf Outing** which will be held on Saturday, **July 28, 2007** at the Blue Fox Run Golf Course in Avon, Connecticut. A golf clinic will be offered to those who are interested followed by a nine hole tournament and lunch. The clinic will begin at 10:00 am and the first tee time is scheduled for 11:15 am. We will play a scramble format. This should be a great way to meet the new Executive Board and our other guests. This event is open to the public, so please invite your family, friends and clients to join in the fun. Registration materials will be circulated shortly.

There are also two upcoming conferences that you should plan to attend: the **82nd Annual National Bar Association Conference and Exhibits** (Atlanta, GA - July 28-Aug 4); and **Charting Your Own Course Career Development Conference** (Leesburg, VA - Sept 28-30). For more information go to www.nationalbar.org and www.cyoc.org. Both conferences provide excellent professional development and networking opportunities.



In addition, our first **Quarterly Membership Meeting** will be held on Thursday, **September 20, 2007**, 5:30-8:00 p.m., at the offices of Shipman & Goodwin LLP, 1 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. A panel discussion at the meeting entitled "**What Are My Options?**" will explore many options to legal practice outside of the large firm setting. Panelists will include representatives from government practice, the non-profit setting, solo practice, and in-house corporate attorneys. We especially encourage our new attorney and law student members to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

I encourage you to forward this information to any prospective Crawford members you may know who are not already on our email list or, alternatively, to forward their email addresses to us so that we can reach out to them. Thank you in advance.

I look forward to greeting each of you at our upcoming events!

Vanessa D. Roberts, President

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"The George W. Crawford Black Bar Association ("Crawford") is a volunteer, non-profit, state-wide organization of attorneys, judges, and law students in the State of Connecticut. Crawford represents the collective body of Black attorneys in Connecticut, including both the criminal and civil bar, public and private sector employees, and spanning across law firm, corporate and non-profit affiliations. Please join us as we strengthen Crawford's legacy and ensure its vitality for future generations".