



JAMES M. TERRELL

If you haven't heard the news (see story on previous page), on October 29, 2008, the Alabama State Bar welcomed its 16,000th member, **Cristina Rodriguez**, at the fall admissions ceremony in Montgomery. The Alabama State Bar Young Lawyers' Section is deeply indebted to the following businesses and groups that served as sponsors of this great event: **Ivize of Montgomery, LLC; Freedom Court Reporting, Inc.; The Locker Room of Montgomery; Frank M. Wilson, P.C.; the Federal Bar Association, Montgomery Chapter; ABICLE; the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama; the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama; and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama.** We greatly appreciate their support of this event and of the Young Lawyers' Section.

On November 21, 2008, our section hosted its Seventh Annual Iron Bowl CLE in Birmingham. This was a great CLE that was well-attended. First, thanks to **Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP** for allowing us to hold this CLE in their multi-purpose conference room. On several occasions, Bradley Arant has graciously welcomed us into their office for this event, and we are grateful for their continued support of the Young Lawyers' Section. This year's seminar had a great lineup of speakers including: **the Honorable R. David Proctor** (United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama), **Brandon Falls** (district attorney for Jefferson County), **Robert R. Maddox** (attorney, Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP) and **Victor L. Hayslip** (attorney, Burr & Forman, LLP). I also have to recognize Executive Committee members **Jon Patterson, Michael Clemmer** and **Brett Ialacci** for their outstanding effort in planning this event. Reviews from participants of the Iron Bowl CLE were excellent, and if you were not able to join us this time, please make plans to attend next year.

We have several projects that will begin in earnest over the next few months. Our Minority Pre-Law conferences will be held in April in Birmingham and Montgomery. These conferences introduce high school students to our justice system and to the career choices available to them in the legal profession and are great examples of lawyers rendering service in our communities. I encourage you to volunteer to participate in these upcoming conferences. The Executive Committee members spearheading this initiative are **J.R. Gaines, Kitty Brown** and **Navan Ward**. Specific information regarding these conferences and volunteer opportunities will appear in this column in the March edition of *The Alabama Lawyer*.

Additionally, the YLS will again be hosting its Sandestin Seminar in May. The Sandestin Seminar is an annual tradition for our group and is our largest event. During these difficult economic times, you would be hard-pressed to find a better value in a CLE program than this. The lineup of speakers for this year's seminar will appeal to attorneys working in many different practice areas, and the seminar occurs in mid-May before the crowds arrive in Sandestin for the summer. If you haven't attended this before, I encourage you to join us this year. It is a tremendous opportunity to network with other young lawyers, and it is always a great event!

If you have any questions about the section, or if you want to get more involved with your YLS, please contact me.

