



# H. Thomas Wells, Jr.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT, AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

H. Thomas Wells Jr., a partner and founding member at Maynard, Cooper & Gale, PC in Birmingham, was elected as the American Bar Association's president-elect at its August 2007 annual meeting in San Francisco and is to become president in August 2008.

Wells has served on numerous committees and in leadership roles in the Alabama State Bar, the Birmingham Bar Association and the ABA.

Wells has served in the ABA's policy-making House of Delegates since 1991 and was chair of the House of Delegates, the second highest office in the American Bar Association, from 2002 to 2004. He is a former chair of the ABA Section of Litigation, the largest section in the ABA with more than 75,000 members.

In addition, Wells is co-chair of the ABA's Special Committee on Disaster Response, which was commissioned after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He also has been a member of the ABA's Commission on the American Jury and the ABA Commission on the Future of the Legal Profession.

Wells earned his B.A. degree with honors from the University of Alabama, where he was president of the Student Government Association and was elected to *Phi Beta Kappa*. He earned his J.D. degree, Order of the Coif, from the University of Alabama. He also was a member of the *Alabama Law Review* and Hugo Black Scholar while in law school.

Wells lives in Birmingham with his wife, Jan. The couple's two children, Lynlee Wells Palmer and H. Thomas "Trey" Wells III, are also lawyers in Birmingham and active ABA members.

Wells is slated to be the ABA's third president from the state of Alabama. Henry Upson Sims, of Birmingham, was ABA president in 1929-30, and N. Lee Cooper, also a founding member of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, PC in Birmingham, was president in 1996-97 (see the July 1996 issue of *The Alabama Lawyer*).