



Report me and my cause aright  
Hamlet, Act V, Scene 2

# The Catchline

BULLETIN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REPORTERS OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS

VOLUME XXVIII, No. 3

JUNE 2009

## President's Message

With summer almost upon us, August and the Halifax annual meeting are right around the corner. The schedule of speakers prepared by education chair Cliff Allen includes three speakers on Thursday, and one each on Friday and Saturday mornings. Also on Saturday morning, there will be a discussion of headnotes. One of the Thursday speakers is Professor Daniel Poulin from the University of Montreal. His topic, "*An Outsider View on Judicial Reporting Today*," will address matters of increasing importance to Reporters of Judicial Decisions.

In February, 2007, the ARJD's electronic publishing committee published its statement of principles in which we expressed our concern for the accuracy, authenticity and permanence of official documents that are available only online. Our position is that no exclusively online document can be considered official unless its authenticity and permanence can be guaranteed. That spring, Ralph Preston (RJD Ohio) and Ed Jessen (RJD California) attended a conference in Chicago sponsored by the American Association of Law Librarians concerning the authentication of online documents. At the conference, the ARJD position paper was recognized as expressing the concerns of the entire legal information community.

That summer in Anchorage, we were addressed by Casey Clarke from the U.S. Government Printing Office, who introduced us to her agency's vast FDsys (future digital system) project to authenticate and warehouse official federal documents online. Although the scale of the project seemed overwhelming, its importance to reporters was apparent. At that time, our primary concern was the accuracy and future availability of online *source* materials on which legal opinions might rely. Now, however, the issue is of more immediate concern to Reporters in the wake of the decision by the state of Arkansas, where ARJD member Susan Williams is Reporter, to forgo printed volumes and rely on the online version of its cases. Susan and Ralph will moderate the roundtable discussion based on Susan's experience in Arkansas, which has targeted September 1 as print elimination day, and Ralph's experience with the electronic publication project. This apparent shift from print to electronic publication is no longer theoretical, but a reality with which all reporters will soon have to deal.

The four other speakers promise interesting topics including University of Missouri Law Professor Douglas Abrams' historical perspective on "*Judges and Their Editors*" and a high tech presentation by Anna Bradley and Karen McCall on "*Creating Accessible Legal Documents*." We will also be addressed by University of Pittsburgh Law Professor Bernard Hibbitts, who is Editor-in Chief of "*The Jurist*," an online legal news and research publication described by Brian Hern in the last *Catchline*, whose presentation is entitled "*Reporting Law in Real Time*." We also plan a discussion of headnotes presented by Ray Krontz, the former Reporter of Decisions for the state of Washington who now writes Washington headnotes for Lexis. Our thanks to Cliff for putting together an entertaining, education-packed schedule of speakers and discussions.

For the Wednesday night arrival dinner, Vice President Louise Meagher has arranged a gathering at the **Waterfront Warehouse**, a restaurant within easy walking distance from the hotel. Dinner will be at 7:30 p.m. (note the one hour time difference from the East Coast), and the three meal choices: from \$45 to \$50 (CAN) or \$40 to \$45 (US) which include your entrée, a salad, dessert, tax and tip. (*See flyer enclosed for details.*) The events planned for our other evenings are almost complete, and there is no doubt that they will meet the high standards set by our generous hosts in the past.

We will begin Thursday night with dinner and a cruise aboard the **Tall Ship Silva**, a 130-foot historic schooner that can accommodate up to 150 people. The Silva is known as Halifax's premier charter ship.

On Friday night, we will tour and dine at the historic **Citadel** site. Built over a 28 year period between 1828 and 1856, the Citadel is a massive star-shaped stone fortification that is now part of Canada's national park system. Late Saturday afternoon, we will go on a walking tour of historic sites (some of which are thought to be haunted), followed by dinner at the fabulous **Five Fishermen Restaurant**. I think everything in Halifax except the casino is historic, including one of North America's oldest breweries, **The Alexander Keith Brewery**, a good stop during your free time.

The Hospitality Room will continue to be available as at past annual meetings - dates/times to be announced later.

(Contd. on Pg. 2)

## Bylaws Amendments

In December 2008, the Association sent ballots to all members eligible to vote on the five amendments to the bylaws of the Association that had been proposed by the Executive Board. The proposed amendments would modify Articles IV, V, VII, and X of the bylaws.

Ballots were returned by 50 members, representing about 57 percent of the members eligible to vote on the amendments. The ballots were counted at the Executive Board meeting held on April 10, 2009. Each of the proposed amendments was approved by more than 90 percent of the members submitting ballots. Accordingly, in accordance with the current bylaws, the Executive Board determined that each of the proposed amendments had been duly adopted. The revised bylaws became effective on April 10, 2009.

The Executive Board acknowledges, with gratitude, the hard work of Past President Barbara Kincaid in developing these bylaws amendments for the Association.

Ralph Preston, *ARJD Secretary*

## Alternatives to a Passport

*The Federal Times* reports that, as of June 1, 2009, the United States requires Canadian citizens entering the country by land or water to present a valid passport or approved secure document that establishes the bearer's identity and citizenship, including the EDL (enhanced driver's license). In the U.S., the State and Homeland Security departments say they are on pace to implement the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative by June 1. The departments told Congress in late February that they have met the statutory requirements for the program, which requires travelers to present passports at ports of entry with Canada and Mexico. The State Department has begun issuing lower-cost passport cards that travelers can use at land and sea borders. The Department of Homeland Security says it now has the infrastructure it needs at those ports to read the passport cards.

Travelers can also use "enhanced driver's licenses" instead of passports. The licenses serve as proof of citizenship. They are issued by several U.S. states. To learn if your state issues such a license, please *Google* "enhanced drivers licenses + US + State" (*i.e.* Virginia, Michigan etc.).

Ontario, Canada, drivers can now apply for the Ontario Enhanced Driver's License, which can be used at U.S. land and border crossings as an alternative to a passport. The licenses are optional, and drivers must be Canadian citizens to apply. A valid passport is still required to enter the U.S. by air. Nine *ServiceOntario* centres are now accepting applications for enhanced driver's licenses, which cost an additional \$40. Appointments will be available starting May 19, with the first batch of licenses scheduled for delivery by June 1, 2009. To book an appointment, visit:

<http://www.serviceontario.ca/>

Appointments will be available at nine *ServiceOntario* locations: Thunder Bay, Saulte Ste. Marie, Windsor, St. Catharines, Toronto Downtown, North York, Kingston, Cornwall and Ottawa. The EDL contains the same info. as a regular Ontario driver's license, but also includes a machine-readable Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) chip denoting Canadian citizenship. The card looks similar to a regular license, but has the word "enhanced" in the title, and CAN in the corner.

## President's Message – Contd. from Pg. 1

The ARJD executive board met on Friday, April 10, in the impressive setting of the Supreme Court of the U.S. and discussed many of the topics that we will consider during the business sessions of our Halifax meeting. Tim Fuller's treasury report showed level balances over the past year, and meeting fees and dues have therefore remained unchanged. Although Tim is retiring as the Reporter for the state of Washington this Fall, he has agreed to stay on as treasurer for one more year. Cliff Allen presented the tentative education schedule, which he described in the last *Catchline*. The votes of the proposed by-law changes were counted. All proposed changes were approved, and the results will be presented to the full membership in Halifax. The question of whether the *Catchline* will be available only online was tabled until the annual meeting. As has been reported previously, plans for Las Vegas are on hold until August. In Halifax we hope to get some sense of what attendance to expect and proceed from there.

Shauna Thomas has passed the nomination torch to Barbara Kincaid, who will chair a nomination committee that will include our membership chair (Bilee Cauley) and our new member chair (Leah Walker). Anyone interested in assuming an executive position should contact one of the committee members or any officer, even at the meeting in Halifax.

Although many have already made reservations, I hope that many more members and guests make plans to join us in Halifax from August 5 through August 10. See you there.

Kevin Loftus, *ARJD President 2008-2009*



## Member Input Welcome

Your special announcement can be printed in the ARJD's newsletter next time around . . . please share your news or news of what's happening in your court, automation plans, website, new challenges and the like. Thanks!

**For More Information on Hotel and  
Special Event Activity Locations in Halifax, NS  
Please Check the Links Below:**

***Delta Halifax Hotel***  
**www.deltahotels.com**

***Waterfront Warehouse Restaurant***  
**www.rcr.ca**

***Tall Ship Silva***  
**www.tallshipsilva.com**

**The Citadel**  
**www.pc.gc.ca/lhn\_nhs/ns/halifax/index\_E.asp**

**Five Fishermen Restaurant**  
**www.fivefishermen.com**

**The Alexander Keith Brewery**  
**www.keiths.ca**

**Halifax Events - Theatre etc.**  
**http://visitors.halifax.ca/events.shtml**

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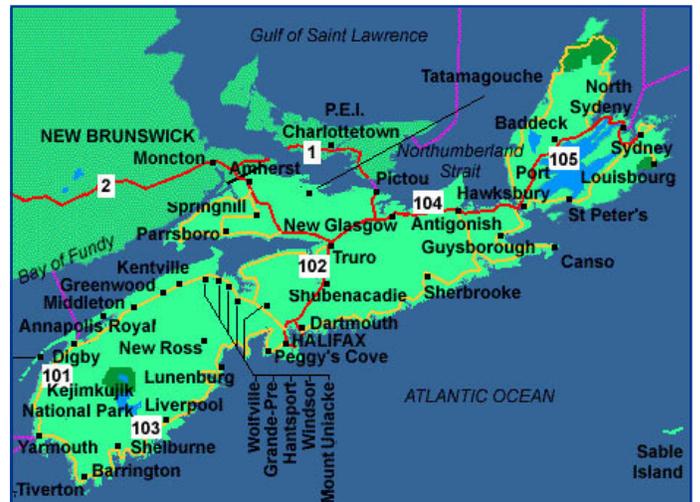
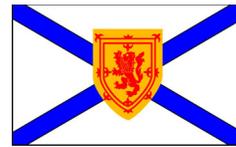
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The Citadel



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