

## **PRESENTATION OF THE 2009-2010 TREASURER'S REPORT**

**David S. Bloomfield, Jr.**

This past year, as Secretary/Treasurer, I've had the privilege of attending lots of meetings of the CBA, including various committee meetings and meetings of the CBA's related corporate entities. In my role as Treasurer, during those meetings, I've delivered around 2 dozen financial reports. Without exception, when delivering those reports, I've gotten the same blank stares from the audience that I'm getting now. (I know – it's not you, it's me.) Let's face it – the only thing you want to hear is the bottom line.

So, the bottom line is this: even in another challenging year, the CBA's finances remain strong. The bar received an unqualified audit opinion on its 2009 financial statements from the CBA's independent auditors. Though the CBA is down a few members and membership is a hair under 5000, our membership remains strong. In fact, the bar's staff has worked very hard to maintain our membership levels – something that a lot of other bars cannot say that they've been able to do. In addition, the bar counts on nearly 600 sustaining members – like me! – to allow the bar to tackle the projects that Elizabeth Watters will discuss in her report and that Judge McIntosh will discuss in his address.

At the beginning of the year, with a conservative budget, the bar projected a budget surplus for this fiscal year – and, at the time, such a projection seemed like a bit of a stretch. I'm pleased to announce that, with one month left in our fiscal year, we're projecting that the CBA will beat that initial projected surplus.

Year after year, Treasurers have reminded you that membership dues remain only 27% of the revenues of the bar. It's not dues that primarily drive the CBA's budget; other large sources of the CBA's income include income from lawyers referral service, CLE (and that's after giving and continuing to provide 12 hours of CLE for \$100 with the Easy Pass), the insurance and bond program, the notary public program, and Columbus Lawyer Finder.com, among others.

Most important, the CBA retains its fiscal strength due to the stewardship of the Board and officers you elect and the CBA staff, from the top down – including Executive Director Alex Lagusch and CFO Frank Duffy – all of whom look for ways to make the CBA the best bar association for our members. In short, the CBA spends its money wisely and the staff is always attuned to new ideas and opportunities for growth.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer, and thank you to the volunteer members of the various boards and committees I've had the pleasure to sit in on this past year, including the members of the Audit Committee, the Investment Committee, Columbus Bar Services, Inc. (the for-profit arm of the bar, which runs Columbus Lawyer Finder, among other things), CBS Agency, Inc. (in charge of the bar's insurance program), and the

Columbus Bar Foundation. And, thank you for your continued support of the CBA, your neighborhood bar.