

mailing panel

# YLD MID-WINTER THAW 2009

with keynote speaker **Harry Bliss**

**Please return registration to: Vermont Bar Association, PO Box 100, Montpelier, VT 05601-0100**

*NOTE: This Registration is Solely for the Seminars; Please See Reverse Side for Hotel Registration Information*

Registration includes CLE programs, program handouts (available on-line only: Visit [www.vtbar.org](http://www.vtbar.org) to download your copy of the CLE materials), Friday evening reception, brunch on Saturday and Saturday evening reception.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Firm Name/Employer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle as appropriate:** Sr. Lawyer (\$185 US); Young Lawyer (\$160 US); Government or Public Interest (\$120 US); Assoc Member/First Time attendee (\$110 US)

**Additional brunch ticket** (guest) \$20/Adult \$10/child Number of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_ **Keynote Speaker: Harry Bliss**  
Seminar preference: Friday 2:00PM: Fools Rush In..... (Circle one) Saturday 8:45AM: Mediation Advocacy or Trial & Brief Writing .....

(Circle one) Saturday 11:45 AM: Title Claims or Litigation 911....

**Payment Method:**  
Check enclosed (made payable to Vermont Bar Association) Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Card** (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express ONLY)

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# MID-WINTER THAW SCHEDULE

Friday, January 16 | 2pm–4pm

## Fools Rush In: Ethical Communications and Knowing What to Say to Clients, Opposing Attorneys, & Third Parties

This program focuses on the ethical issues attorneys face when communicating with clients, other attorneys, and third parties. We have all asked ourselves: “How candid should I be?” with the person on the other end of line when talking about our clients and their interests. This seminar will take participants through a series of scenarios to explore the ethical rules governing what you can and cannot say when you are speaking on behalf of another.

**PANELISTS:** Michael Kennedy, Esq., Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Wendy Collins, Esq., Vt. Professional Responsibility Bd.; and Ernest “Bud” Allen, Esq., Stetler, Allen & Kampmann

CLE CREDITS: 2.0 ETHICS CREDITS (PENDING APPROVAL)

## Saturday, January 17 | 8:45–10am | Seminar 1 Mediation Advocacy—Tools For Solving the Two Hardest Problems

Join our panel of experts as they present a CLE program that draws on their practices as mediators and mediation advocates to help you solve the two hardest problems in mediations: (1) How do you deal with problem personalities? (2) How do you break impasse? Whether it’s the adversary from Hades or the client who drives everyone (including you) crazy, problem personalities can ruin any chance for a reasonable settlement. We will explore techniques that can help you manage the problem personality and still get a good settlement.

**PANELISTS:** Michael Marks, Esq., Tarrant, Marks and Gillies; and Christopher D. Ekman, Esq., Heilmann, Ekman & Associates, Inc.

CLE CREDITS: 1.25

## Saturday, January 17 | 8:45–10 am | Seminar 2 Effective Trial and Appellate Brief Writing

This panel will present a discussion of effective brief writing from the points of view of attorneys and the bench. Topics include organizing your arguments (and paring arguments), writing with clarity to convey your legal rea-

*NOTE: Materials for the CLE seminars will be available only online at the VBA website. No printed materials will be available in Montreal. Please visit [www.vtbar.org](http://www.vtbar.org) to download your copy of CLE material prior to arriving in Montreal. For laptop users and procrastinators, the Hilton Bonaventure will offer free wifi in certain areas of the hotel at the time of the conference.*

soning, addressing weaknesses in your arguments up front, being persuasive without losing candor.

**PANELISTS:** The Hon. David A. Howard, Presiding Judge, Bennington Family Court; Eric S. Miller, Esq., Sheehey Furlong & Behm, P.C.; and Bridget Asay, Esq., Vermont Attorney General’s Office

CLE CREDITS: 1.25

## Saturday, January 17 | 11:45 am–1pm | Seminar 3 Title Claims & How to Deal with Them

First American Title Insurance Company in conjunction with The Young Lawyers Section Mid-Winter Thaw

Our panel of expert real estate attorneys will explore the world of title claims and how to deal with them. Topics will address how to avoid title claims, what to do when confronted with a title claim, the attorney’s role and relationship with the title insurer, and creative claims resolutions. Hypothetical and Not-So-Hypothetical claims will be the foundation for the discussion. The panel discussion will be moderated by Harland L. Miller, Vermont State Counsel.

CLE CREDITS: 1.25

## Saturday, January 17 | 1:45 am–1pm | Seminar 4 Litigation 911: What You Should Know When a Client Needs Court Relief Immediately, If Not Sooner

In so many areas of law, cases are won or lost in the first few days when a party attempts to secure emergency relief from a court. Typically, clients might need temporary restraining orders or preliminary injunctions to protect their interests, but often the appropriate relief might be in the form of prejudgment replevin or intervention in a government forfeiture action. Such matters can arise very quickly and often demand instantaneous action by counsel. Whether you are a litigator or work exclusively in a transactional field, this seminar will provide some of the basics you need to know when the next client walks in the door needing immediate action.

**PANELISTS:** The Hon. J. Garvan Murtha, U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont; The Hon. Helen M. Toor, Presiding Judge, Washington Superior Court; and Matthew B. Byrne, Esq., Gravel and Shea

CLE CREDITS: 1.25

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, JAN. 16  
2:00PM–4:00PM

Fools Rush In: Ethical Communications and Knowing What to Say to Clients, Opposing Attorneys, & Third Parties

5:00PM–7:00PM

Mid-Winter Thaw Reception  
Sponsored by VBA/YLD

SATURDAY, JAN. 17  
8:45AM–10:00 AM

Seminar 1  
Mediation Advocacy—Tools For Solving the Two Hardest Problems

Seminar 2

Effective Trial and Appellate Brief Writing

10:15AM–11:45AM

Brunch with Keynote Speaker: Harry Bliss

11:45AM–1:00PM

Seminar 3 + 4  
Litigation 911: What You Should Know When a Client Needs Court Relief Immediately, If Not Sooner

5:30PM–7:30PM

Cocktail Party Sponsored by Vermont Law School. Remarks by Geoffrey B. Shields, VLS President and Dean and Professor of Law

*The Young Lawyers Division Would Like to Thank First American Title Insurance Company, Pinnacle Financial, and Vermont Law School For Their Generous Support of the 2009 Mid-Winter Thaw*

## THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT HAS FORMED A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MONTREAL HILTON BONAVENTURE, WHICH WILL HOST THE VBA–YLD MID-WINTER THAW IN 2009 AND 2010.



In addition to the same amenities that Thaw attendees have come to expect, the Hilton Bonaventure will give you:

Direct Access to the Underground Mall and Metro (leave your coat in the room);

An extensive Sunday Brunch in their restaurant;

An expanded Outdoor Heated Pool and deck-side bar service;

Executive club space (not included in the basic registration);

Free Wifi hot spots in the lounge and lobby area;

Newly renovated rooms; and

Same easy access to shopping and dining on St. Catherine’s Street.

The Hilton Bonaventure Hotel costs are \$149 CAD per night. Please note: you must register and pay the registration for the seminars with the VBA in order to receive this special group rate. If you fail to register for the CLE program, the hotel will charge you its normal “rack rate.”

### Three Ways to Register:

Call the Montreal Hilton Bonaventure directly: Call 514-878-2332. Make sure to identify yourself as a Vermont Bar Association member to obtain the special \$149 per night rate.

Call the Hilton’s National Toll free at 1-800-267-2575. Specify that you are reserving at the Montreal

Hilton Bonaventure and identify yourself as a Vermont Bar Association member to obtain the special rate.

Log on to Go to the VBA website’s Mid-Winter Thaw’s event reservation page and click on the link to reserve your hotel room. Or go directly to the Hilton’s VBA group page at <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/YULBHHF-VBA-20090112/index.jhtml>.

*Don’t forget this registration is separate from your VBA event registration!*

Rates for suites available upon request along with prices to upgrade to executive privileges. All rates quoted in Canadian funds, not including gst or qst. Note: the Hilton allows up to four adults in a double occupancy room.

Reservations are required by the cut off date of December 31, 2008. After this date, rooms are subject to availability and will not be guaranteed at the “special rate.” Reservations held until 6pm unless payment is received. Check-in 3pm; Check-out 12pm.

**Keynote speaker: Harry Bliss** is an internationally syndicated cartoonist and cover artist for The New Yorker magazine. His self-titled single panel gag cartoon, ‘BLISS’ appears in newspapers across the country and Japan.

Growing up in upstate New York amidst a family of successful painters and illustrators, Bliss went on to study painting at The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Illustration at The University of the Arts (BFA) and Syracuse University (MA).

Bliss also illustrates books for children. Bliss’s first children’s book, A Fine, Fine School by Newbery-award-winning author, Sharon Creech, was a New York Times bestseller. Bliss went on to illustrate Which Would You Rather Be? by William Steig, Countdown To Kindergarten (a winner of the Minnesota Book Award) and Mrs. Watson Wants Your Teeth both by Alison McGhee.

Bliss has also created the pictures for Diary of a Worm, Diary of a Spider, and Diary of a Fly by Doreen Cronin, all New York Times bestsellers. Other bestsellers include Don’t Forget To Come Back by Robie H. Harris and A Very Brave Witch by Alison McGhee. Upcoming for Fall 2008 is Louise: The Adventure of a Chicken by Kate DiCamillo.

Bliss’s first cartoon collection, Death By Laughter, with an introduction by Christopher Guest was published by Abrams in the Spring of 2008.

Harry Bliss lives in Vermont. Visit: [www.harrybliss.com](http://www.harrybliss.com)