

# *Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association*

2007-2008

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### *President*

LINDA L. WALSH  
1900 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

### *Vice President*

RICHARD MEYER  
4301 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22203

### *Secretary*

PAUL M. BREAKMAN  
1575 Eye Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

### *Treasurer*

JEFFREY M. PETRASH  
400 N. Capitol Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001

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## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**of the**

**CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF THE ENERGY BAR ASSOCIATION**

**to the**

**ENERGY BAR ASSOCIATION**

**for the Year 2007-2008**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association ("Foundation"), I am pleased to submit this Annual Report of the Foundation to the Energy Bar Association ("Association") for the year 2007-2008. The period covered by this report is from May 2007 to April 2008. This Annual Report is submitted pursuant to Section 6.04 of the Foundation's Bylaws and highlights the Foundation's activities and finances over the past year.

## **A. Overview**

The Charitable Foundation is engaged in energy-related charitable projects and community service, through financial contributions and volunteer services of members of the Energy Bar Association and others.

The year 2007-2008 marked the Foundation's fifth full year of operation. During the year, the Foundation was successful in planning and engaging in a number of charitable activities. To support these initiatives, the Foundation raised funds through its Fifth Annual Gala, its Fourth Annual Charity Golf Tournament, and through generous contributions from the Association's members and their service providers and institutions, and the Association.

## **B. Organization**

The Foundation is a non-profit organization formed under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is incorporated in the District of Columbia and operates pursuant to its Charter and written Bylaws. Pursuant to its Bylaws, management of the Foundation is entrusted to its Board of Directors. The Board met monthly during the 2007-2008 period. The day-to-day work of the Foundation is conducted by its officers, directors and committees, with valuable assistance from the staff of the Association. During 2007-2008, the Foundation utilized the efforts of its officers and standing committees to conduct the Foundation's day-to-day activities.

The Foundation's standing committees are the Charitable Grants Committee, the Charitable Service Projects Committee, the Fundraising Committee, the Communications Committee, the Scholarships and Internships Committee, the Gala Event Committee, the Golf Event Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Legal Committee, and the Chapters Advisory Committee.

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Each of these committees is either staffed by, or operates under the oversight of, one or more members of the Board. Committee membership is also open to members of the Association.

The Foundation's five-year Advance Ruling Period from the Internal Revenue Service expired December 31, 2007. In March 2008, the Foundation filed the required Form 8734 with the IRS to continue its qualification as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. A copy of the Form 8734 filing is attached. In preparing the Form 8734 filing, the Foundations biggest supporters over the past five years were highlighted and have the deepest gratitude of the Board. The following entities *each* contributed over \$12,000 to the Foundation, and in some cases a great deal more than that: Day Pitney; Energy Bar Association; Hunton & Williams LLP; Morrison & Foerster Foundation; Public Service Enterprise Group; Sidley Austin; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom; Steptoe & Johnson; Stinson Morrison Hecker; Sullivan & Worcester; Troutman Sanders; and Van Ness Feldman.

## **C. Charitable Activities**

The Foundation engaged in a number of significant charitable activities during the past year, including:

### **1. Volunteer Service Projects**

The CFEBA and EBA members continued the tradition of providing both financial support and people-power to the Habitat for Humanity chapters of Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. to construct homes for families who otherwise could not afford home ownership.

- The Foundation sponsored a Habitat for Humanity construction and park project with the District of Columbia Chapter of Habitat for Humanity on May 12, 2007. Twenty-four EBA members, family and friends worked on the framing and raising of walls for the home and other volunteers worked with Washington Park and People, a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring DC parks, cleaning up Marvin Gaye Park in Northeast DC.
- A "Build Day" with the Northern Virginia Chapter of Habitat for Humanity was held on September 29, 2007.
- Future Build Days to be held on May 24, 2008 with the DC Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and in September 2008 with the Northern Virginia Chapter.

Events and pictures are posted on the EBA web site along with a listing of other volunteer activities that EBA members and their families could participate in. The Board appreciates the efforts of Bill Booth, the Chair of the Charitable Service Project Committee, for organizing these wonderful events.

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## **2. Charitable Grants**

During the past year the Foundation has evaluated multiple requests for grants. After careful consideration by the Board, the Foundation provided more than \$96,000 in charitable grants, including donations to the following organizations:

- The CFEBA has provided funds to off set the energy needs of the Fisher House Foundation, which provides temporary housing in all regions covered by EBA chapters for families who are visiting wounded soldiers recovering in military hospitals.
- Contributions from the CFEBA will purchase more than 300 solar cookers for the Darfur Solar Cooker Project, which will help protect women in refugee camps in Chad by reducing their need to collect firewood for cooking outside the security of the camps, while also protecting the environment from deforestation and unnecessary air emissions.
- The Volunteer Center of California acts as a statewide clearinghouse for volunteer efforts relating to large scale emergencies, such as the recent wildfire disaster. The CFEBA donation, made possible by the efforts of the EBA's Western Chapter, will be used for energy-related purposes such as generators, gasoline cards, and food for energy utility responders.
- Through the efforts of the EBA's Houston Chapter, the CFEBA was also pleased to make a donation to the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), which assists low income families and the disabled with the payment of utility bills and provides energy education to encourage consumers to control energy costs in the future.
- CFEBA contributions will help with the energy-related operating expenses of the Northeast Regional Food Bank. Identified by the EBA's Northeast Chapter, the Food Bank collects large donations of food from the food industry and distributes it to charitable agencies serving the hungry and disadvantaged in the Northeast. The Northeast Chapter identified several other organizations that would benefit from that Chapter's hugely successful fundraising event in conjunction with the RGGI Forum, including the Dollar Energy Fund, Operation Fuel, Good Neighbor Energy Fund and NY Shares.
- At the request of the Midwest Chapter, the CFEBA directed funds raised by that Chapter to the Red Cross for energy-related tornado relief in Kansas.

A special thanks to Rich Meyer and Meredith Berger-Chambers, co-Chairs of the Charitable Grants Committee for their efforts in identifying worthwhile organizations for the Foundation to support.

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## **3. Internships**

The CFEBA has sponsored scholarships for student interns at the Department of Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

- Scott Johnson, a second-year law student at American University will fill the FERC Summer 2008 internship position.
- Rachel Dugan, an undergraduate majoring in resource economics at the University of Massachusetts, worked as an intern for the Department of Energy, Office of Electric Delivery during the Fall 2007 semester.
- Christina England, a first year law student will complete an eight-week legal internship with the General Law Division of the Department of Energy in Chicago in Summer 2008. This is the first time the Foundation has sponsored an intern outside of the Washington, DC area.
- The Scholarships and Internships Committee is currently evaluating options for providing additional scholarship or internship opportunities at FERC and DOE.

The Foundation extends its great appreciation to Susan Kelly, Chair, and Paul Mohler, Vice-Chair, of the Scholarships and Internships Committee for their efforts in arranging such valuable educational opportunities to deserving future energy professionals.

## **D. Fundraising**

Fundraising is a vitally important element of the Foundation's activities. The Foundation's Board of Directors sincerely thanks the Foundation's donors and sponsors for their continued and generous support.

### **1. Annual Fundraising Campaign**

The 2007-08 Fundraising Campaign began June 27, 2007, with solicitation letters to corporate donors and law firms, followed by letters to individual donors in the fall of 2007. The campaigns take into account a variety of new and historical revenue sources. The corporate and individual campaigns were very successful and raised over \$108,000. Thirty-four law firms and corporations contributed \$87,500 and 41 individuals contributed \$20,742. The CFEBA Board of Directors extends its gratitude to all who made this fundraising effort an overwhelming success.

The 2008-09 Fundraising Campaign will begin later in May 2008. A special thanks to Bob Weishaar and Rick Roberts, Co-Chairs of the Fundraising Committee, for all of their efforts on this very important committee.

### **2. Fifth Annual Gala Fundraising Reception**

The Foundation held its Fifth Annual Gala Fundraising Reception at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, in Washington, D.C., on November 29, 2007 in conjunction with the Association's Mid-Year Meeting. The reception included an open bar,

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buffet and appetizers, live music, silent auction, and sale of stuffed animals. Chairman Joseph Kelliher offered brief remarks. During the reception, checks reflecting the Foundation's grants were made to a number of charitable organizations. The Gala was also a success financially, raising nearly \$18,000 (net of costs) from sponsors, attendees, the silent auction, and merchandise sales. The foundation also raised an additional \$465 specifically directed for donation to the Solar Cooker for Darfur Project. The remaining 15 stuffed animals were donated to My Sister's Place, an organization and emergency shelter to support women and children who are survivors of domestic violence. A special thanks to Michele Duehring of the EBA for coordinating the Gala Committee's efforts this year.

### **3. Annual Charity Golf Tournament**

The Foundation held its Fourth Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament on April 26, 2007, the day following the EBA's Annual Meeting. The event was held at Westfields Golf Club in Clifton, Virginia. The tournament was a success with nearly \$10,000 raised from seventeen generous sponsors and 32 golfers. Participants represented various segments of the energy industry including lawyers, consultants, and energy company employees. A silent auction was held at the tournament to award a donated week's rental at a Myrtle Beach condominium. The silent auction raised \$250 for the Foundation.

The Fifth Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament will be held on May 2, 2008, in conjunction with the EBA's Annual Meeting. The tournament will again be held at Westfields Golf Club in Clifton, Virginia. The Board extends its appreciation to Evan Reese for his good work in organizing both the 2007 and 2008 Golf Tournaments.

### **4. Member Contributions with Dues**

Individual EBA members are encouraged each year to consider contributing to the Foundation at the same time they renew their memberships.

### **5. Chapter Activities**

Either this year or in past years, each of the EBA Chapters has participated in regional fundraising on behalf of the Foundation. The Foundation, in turn, contributed to charities suggested by each of the Chapters. This year, the Foundation benefited from fundraising events held by the Northeast Chapter, in association with the RIGGI Forum, the Western Chapter and the New Orleans Chapter. All of these events were tremendously successful in raising funds to be contributed to the CFEBA and in increasing the awareness of the CFEBA across the country. Special thanks to these Chapters for their efforts on behalf of the Foundation.

The CFEBA is actively looking for opportunities to expand its presence outside the DC area, primarily through outreach and work with EBA chapters. Such efforts have been successful in the past and the Foundation will continue in its outreach efforts to work with the Chapters on raising funds and identifying worthy charities in all regions.

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## **E. Publicity**

The Foundation has publicized its mission and activities through its website, press releases, articles in the Association's newsletters, mailings and e-mail messages to the EBA membership, notices in the Energy Law Journal, and oral reports at Association events. The Communication Committee unveiled its new brochure at last year's Annual Meeting. A special thanks to Karen Hill, Chair of the Communications Committee, for writing and coordinating the Foundation's press releases and newsletter articles.

## **F. Financial**

As of March 31, 2008, the Foundation had assets of \$244,394.63 and no liabilities. A summary report is attached. Through the efforts of the Foundation's treasurer, Jeffrey Petrash, a portion of the Foundation's funds are invested in low risk CDs and money market funds, thus increasing the interest return on these funds. The Foundations' operating expenses, which include postage, insurance, printing, accounting fees and other expenses, are largely offset as the result of a \$10,000 donation from the Association for this purpose. Thus, very close to, if not all, donations received by the Foundation are utilized for charitable purposes. The Board appreciates the tremendous efforts of Jeff Petrash and Paul Breakman, the Foundation's Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as the President of the Foundation during the past year. I look forward to continuing to work with the Foundation, its new President, Rich Meyer, and the Board of Directors in 2008-2009. As highlighted in past reports by prior Presidents of the Foundation, the Foundation is an excellent way for the Association and its members, collectively, to give charitably back to the communities we serve professionally. I urge my fellow members to contribute to and get involved with the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association.

Respectfully yours,

Linda L. Walsh  
President  
Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association

May 1, 2008