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President's Report

Morgan E. Thompson

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President's Report

Morgan E. ("Pat") Thompson

The members, and non-members, who attended the annual meeting and training seminar in Reno were treated to another excellent week of learning and discussions. It was my pleasure and privilege to participate in this outstanding program. I hope that all of you, including those who were unable to attend this year, will make every effort to join us at the 1984 meeting in San Antonio.

My election to this high office by my peers is certainly one of the greatest honors to come to this son of a poor Oklahoma share-cropper. Born on a poor dirt farm in the poorer section of eastern Oklahoma, with little reason to hope for a very bright or promising future, the honor of serving as your National President for fiscal year 1984 certainly measures to an honor far beyond any expectations.

Although the election to the office is a high honor, it also carries with it awesome responsibilities and requirements. I thank you most sincerely for your trust, and assure you every effort will be made to oversee the operations of your Association for the year in the manner you have a right to expect. All decisions made as your presiding officer during the year will be based upon the guidelines and dictates of your Constitution and By-Laws.

As presiding officer of your Association, I intend to make myself as fully available to the entire membership as is possible within the confines of my job duties and assignments as an appeals hearing officer. I propose to be available for chapter and regional meetings of the Association, or of groups of administrative law judges and hearing officers. If you are having a chapter or regional meeting and would like the participation of your president, or any other member of the Board of Governors, I would like to hear from you. Plans will be made to attend if at all possible.

My program and goals for the year are quite simple. I propose to make the National Association of Administrative Law Judges meaningful to each and every member. I propose to inform non-member ALJs and hearing officers that this is the Association that they should belong to for training and advancement of their profession, as well as for a unified voice for complaints and advancing desired goals. I propose to guide the Association through the year to the best of my ability. And, I propose to increase the membership by making it known to all eligible parties that membership and participation is open to all ALJs and Hearing Officers, whether members of the Bar or not.

I request your assistance and consideration during my term. If you are aware of any member who has not been properly acknowledged as a member, by receipt of a certificate, or who has valid complaints of Association shortcomings, please inform me at once. If called to serve the Association in some manner, please do not let the Association down. This is a professional Association for ALL, and not just a select few.

I look forward to an active and interesting year as your President. But! The success of this association depends upon each and every one of its members.