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## Letter from the Editor

Edward J. Schoenbaum

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## Letter from the Editor

This issue of the *Journal of the National Association of Administrative Law Judges* marks a transition as the NAALJ is joined by the Loyola University - Chicago, School of Law in an effort to up-grade the Journal for the future. I am happy to be turning over the duties as Editor to Professor Allen Shoenberger. Allen was ably assisted this semester by students: Supervising Editor, Elliott Oppenheim, Articles Editors, Eileen Berner, Matthew Bove, MaryKay Foy, and David Worth.

I will continue to be involved as the Chair of the Board of Advisors but am relinquishing many of my responsibilities. Joining the Board of Advisors we have some of the leading academicians in the field of administrative law and administrative adjudication. Professors Harold Levinson, Micheal Graham, Patrick Hugg, and Victor Rosenblum have agreed to work with us in attracting other authors from academe to help us focus on key issues in administrative adjudication. The Board also has added a distinguished group of administrative law judges to work with our academicians and staff to produce the best possible journal for the administrative judiciary. Please note their names and addresses and please contact any of us to make your suggestions on improving this journal for you.

The lead article on Professionalism is by Honorable Gina Hale, our Fellowship recipient for 1995. Justice Lacey's keynote for the 1995 Annual Meeting and Conference continues this same theme (and touches upon next years Fellowship theme "*Similarities and Differences Between Judges in the Judicial Branch and the Executive Branch.*") Honorable Edd Wheeler gives us a look at Professionalism from the other side of the picture, the way some agencies treat its professionals. The next article is by Daniel Skolar, recently retired from the Office of Administrative Hearings, Social Security Administration. It is a study of high volume adjudication agencies and how they cope with their high volume. Professor Weaver of the University of Kentucky shares results of a study he did of federal administrative agency staff support. (Many state administrative law judges would like to have any staff support at all.) We publish for the first time the Model State Act Creating a State Central Hearing Agency, which was approved by the Board of Governors of the National Association of Administrative Law Judges at its recent midyear meeting on Saturday, June 8, 1996. This has been a joint project with the National Conference of Administrative Law Judges of the Judicial Administration Division within the American Bar Association. Our Board wanted this Model distributed to the widest audience in hopes that it will aid those states that are attempting to create an Office of Administrative Hearings and also aid those states that already have a central panel but wish to improve theirs.

The issue concludes with two students' notes of some interest, one on administrative Res Judicata and another on the rights to subpoena a physician in a social security disability hearing.

Membership continues to grow. We encourage you to share this issue with colleagues, attorneys, and law professors who might be interested in joining, either as members or as associate members to sample this scholarly vehicle of theory and practice to professionalize administrative law judges and improve the effectiveness of administrative adjudication at the Federal and State levels.

We need your help to make this Journal, one that members of the administrative judiciary can truly be proud and to improve your profession.

We need all of your help to develop the best articles for publication in the *Journal of the National Association of Administrative Law Judges*. Please send your ideas, suggestions, and queries to:

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