June 9, 2011

Mark Fordham  
President  
King County Bar Association  
1200 5th Ave., Suite 600  
Seattle, WA  98101

Dear President Fordham:

On behalf of the American Bar Association, congratulations to the King County Bar Association for reaching 125 years of service to the profession and the public.

The ABA is grateful for the hospitality extended to us over the many years when the ABA and its entities have met in Seattle. Nearly 103 years ago, a very young Seattle-King County Bar Association hosted the ABA when the first code of ethics was adopted. This began the development of the ethical standards for our profession.

You deserve our congratulations not only for longevity and hospitality, but for the leadership the KCBA and its lawyers have devoted to the major issues facing the legal profession over the years. Improving access to justice, enhancing the diversity of the bench and bar, judicial evaluations, rule of law, and public service have been the hallmarks of the KCBA. The KCBA and its lawyers have partnered with the ABA on these issues, and for that we are grateful.

I have been privileged to work with outstanding KCBA lawyers throughout the years, including former president and ABA Medal winner Bill Gates, Sr., Past ABA President Bill Neukom, Past Treasurer David Andrews, former members of the ABA Board of Governors Llew Pritchard, Tom Fitzpatrick and Kathleen Hopkins, and many more. The ABA is also honored to have KCBA members as recipients of the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement and Spirit of Excellence Awards.

Please accept my best wishes on this landmark occasion and all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Stephen N. Zack