

REPORT . . . LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY BOARD

By

Michael Hoover, Administrative Director
Minnesota Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility

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We are happy to report that on February 23, 1979 the Minnesota Supreme Court appointed Michael J. Hoover the new Director of Lawyers Professional Responsibility of the State of Minnesota. Mike was appointed after approximately a two month search carried out by a Committee chaired by David C. Donnelly, who also chaired a similar committee prior to the appointment of Walt Bachman. The vacancy in the Director's position was widely advertised by a mailing to all registered lawyers and judges in Minnesota who had been admitted to practice more than three years. Over 60 applications were received and several applicants were interviewed by the Committee. Dave Donnelly reported to the Court the gratitude of the entire Committee for the large number of experienced and qualified lawyers who expressed their interest in this important position by applying.

Mike Hoover is no stranger to anyone who has been involved with the Minnesota lawyer disciplinary process recently. Until his appointment as Director, Mike had been Assistant Director since September 1978, and before that a Staff Attorney in the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board Office. He has demonstrated to Board members and others with whom he had dealt, qualities of competence, intelligence and judgment which make us confident he will continue the effective leadership of the past.

A St. Paul native who migrated to Minneapolis after graduation *cum laude* from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1974, Mike also has a B.A. from the University of Minnesota with a major in Political Science. His education was interrupted by two years' active duty in the Army, including a stint in Vietnam. He was a member of the Board of Editors of the *Minnesota Law Review*, Secretary and President of the Law School Council and a participant in many other Law School and University activities. Mike practiced both with a small firm and as a sole practitioner in Minneapolis during the period from completing Law School until he became a member of the Board's staff in 1977.

Mike Hoover will continue the vigorous enforcement of our professional standards of conduct. But he has also indicated a desire to expand the educational and informational functions of the Director's office. Mike and his staff are available to assist all lawyers who have questions about professional responsibility. We hope many of the lawyers in Minnesota will have a chance to meet Mike Hoover in the near future in a non-enforcement environment! He and his staff are serving you. Give him your

cooperation and support.

I am happy to introduce Marilyn B. Knudsen, the new Assistant Administrative Director. Marilyn is a 1971 graduate of Boston University Law School, where she was a scholarship recipient and a moot court participant. She was employed for three years by Legal Assistance of Ramsey County and has, since October, 1975, been in private practice in St. Paul.

Marilyn has also been an instructor in Advanced Civil Procedure at William Mitchell College of Law, Chairman of the State Review Board Association for State Hospitals, and a member of the Board of Directors of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services.

Marilyn joined us on April 2, 1979, and we are happy to have her with us.