

## Speaking Opportunities



**Jack Scarola** participated as a member of the "Commercial Litigation Trial Advocacy Panel" at the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Bench-Bar Conference held on February 19, 2010. The Bench-Bar Conference is an annual all-day event designed to foster the working environment between attorneys and the judiciary. On March 5, 2010, Mr. Scarola spoke at the PBCBA's Commercial Litigation CLE Committee's E-Discovery Seminar. His topic was "Non-Compliance With Electronic Discovery Requests and the Resulting Sanctions in the Morgan Stanley Case," including related case law. ♦



**Greg Barnhart** spoke on "Opening and Closing Arguments" at the Florida Bar's Annual Review and Board Certification Seminar held February 1, 2010, at the Airport Marriott in Tampa, Florida. ♦



**Sia Baker-Barnes** participated as moderator at the Florida Justice Association's Workhorse Seminar held February 17-19, 2010, in Orlando, Florida. The session's theme was "Proof and Argument of Damages in Personal Injury and Wrongful Death Cases." Discussions focused on trying the big-rig trucking or bus case to verdict, with special emphasis on demonstrative evidence. ♦



**Vince Leonard** spoke at the Palm Beach County Justice Association's Paralegal Breakfast Seminar held March 12, 2010, at the President Country Club, West Palm Beach, Florida. The topic of the presentation by Mr. Leonard and his co-presenter, local attorney Mickey Smith, was "Everything You Wanted to Know about Uninsured Motorists, But Were Afraid to Ask." ♦



## Three SDSBS Attorneys Appointed to Court Committees Aiding National Litigation of Birth-Control Pill Claims



**Brenda Fulmer**



**David Sales**



**Cal Warriner**

In 2001, Bayer introduced an FDA-approved birth-control pill called Yasmin. In 2006, Bayer introduced a newer version, Yaz. A generic version, Ocella, has also been marketed since 2008 by Barr and Teva. Over the past few years, the FDA has repeatedly cited Bayer for overstating the approved uses of the drugs and other improper marketing practices, and for failing to adequately address safety issues. Studies have been published indicating that women taking Yasmin, Yaz, and Ocella face higher risks of strokes, heart attacks, deep vein thromboses, pulmonary emboli, sudden cardiac death, and gallbladder injuries than women who use other birth-control products. A number of young women have filed lawsuits against the manufacturers for these injuries. Because of the substantial and growing number of lawsuits, the U. S. Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation issued an order on October 1, 2009, to consolidate all of the individual lawsuits and class action claims pending in the federal court system, and the cases were transferred to a judge in East St. Louis, Illinois. The MDL court established committees and appointed plaintiffs' attorneys to advance the national litigation, including SDSBS attorneys **Brenda Fulmer** (Discovery Committee), **David Sales** (Law and Briefing Committee), and **Cal Warriner** (Science/Expert Committee). ♦