



Left to Right: Angie Hankins, Honorable William G. Young

On January 13, 2006, the NYIPLA Committees on Meetings and Forums, Copyrights, and Continuing Legal Education co-sponsored a CLE Luncheon Program featuring the Honorable William G. Young from the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The topic of the CLE

Program was the “Ruminations on the Vanishing Trial: The Role of the Federal Circuit and the Fact Law Distinction.” Angie M. Hankins, Esq. of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, hosted the CLE Program.

The CLE Program event was attended by almost 100 guests. Everyone enjoyed and appreciated the candor and openness of Judge Young. Judge Young discussed the role of the Federal Circuit, Markman proceedings, and prosecution history estoppel. On the topic of the Federal Circuit, Judge Young stated, “I have seen the future, and it is the Federal Circuit.” Judge Young discussed the Federal Circuit’s mission and compared and contrasted it with European courts and U.S. state and district courts. Judge Young also discussed his method for handling Markman proceedings. Specifically, he discussed the use of experts by the defendant and the Court, timing of Markman proceedings, and the emphasis he places on Markman briefs and oral argument. Finally, Judge Young commented on the complex nature of Festo. Judge Young discussed the conflict between the equitable nature of doctrine of equivalents and the fact that it rests on many factual determinations.

The CLE Program concluded with a lively question and answer session.