



Left to Right: Charles Gholz, Richard Erwine, host

Charles L. Gholz, the leading authority on interference practice in the United States, was the featured speaker at the NYIPLA CLE luncheon program on September 23, 2005. Mr. Gholz is a senior partner and head of the interference practice at Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neudstadt in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mr. Gholz first provided an introduction to interference practice, and highlighted the key guidelines for patent interferences before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. Mr. Gholz also addressed the recent rules changes for interference practice and their impact on practitioners. Mr. Gholz added his concerns with the new rules, including the lack of a duty of candor on a patent interferent. Mr. Gholz concluded with a discussion of the current state of interference practice, particularly in light of the proposed post-grant opposition proceedings.