



**DOUGHERTY CIRCUIT  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 1504  
ALBANY, GEORGIA 31702**

**NOTICE**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DOUGHERTY CIRCUIT BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**FROM: PETE DONALDSON**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 1995**

Michael Meyer Von Bremen will be a tough act to follow. Our association has been well led through yet another award winning year. I look forward to the challenge of matching Michael's performance.

I have made a great start by asking Robert Goldsmith to continue as program chairman. It was not a difficult decision. (Actually, it was a "no-brainer.") Robert has never failed to bring us timely, important and entertaining programs. This month will be no exception.

William Smith, Chief Counsel for the State Board of Georgia, will be speaking to our association at our monthly meeting on Friday, September 29, 1995. Please help us begin another successful year by attending. The meeting will be held at Merry Acres, Plantation Room B, and begins at 12:30.

**Pete**

**P.S. from Judge Zeese:** William Smith will be presenting a two hour CLE seminar on Ethics and Professionalism (1 hour each) on the morning of September 29, 1995 from 10:00 to 12:00 at Merry Acres, Georgia Room. There is no charge for this seminar for members of the Dougherty Circuit Bar Association and it will satisfy your 1995 Ethics and Professionalism requirements. Please call Judge Zeese at 430-4280 to let him know how many are coming.



State of Georgia  
Superior Court

DOUGHERTY JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
POST OFFICE BOX 1827  
ALBANY, GEORGIA 31702-1827

ASA D. KELLEY, JR.  
CHIEF JUDGE  
(912) 431-2114

LORING A. GRAY, JR.  
JUDGE  
(912) 431-3242

HERBERT E. PHIPPS  
JUDGE  
(912) 434-2683

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DOUGHERTY CIRCUIT BAR  
FROM: ASA D. KELLEY, JR., CHIEF JUDGE, DOUGHERTY  
COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
RE: NEW PROCEDURE REGARDING ENTRY OF A PLEA OF GUILTY OR  
NOLO IN DOUGHERTY SUPERIOR COURT  
DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 1995

The judges of the Dougherty County Superior Court have determined that the current procedure for accepting pleas in criminal cases is inefficient. They have therefore decided that, beginning with November trial term, the following procedure will apply:

- (1) The court will schedule a Plea Day prior to the first day of trial term. This will be the last opportunity for a defendant to enter a plea with a recommendation from the District Attorney's office. Monday, November 6, 1995 at 8:30 is set as Plea Day for the November, 1995 Term.
- (2) Any defendant who wishes to enter a plea after this plea day will do so without the benefit of a recommendation.
- (3) During each week of trial term, one judge will sit as "presiding judge." This judge will be the only judge who will accept pleas during trial term.
- (4) The District Attorney has agreed to arrange for one assistant district attorney handle all pleas at a given time. This will free the other prosecutors to be available to try those cases that go to trial.
- (5) Witnesses who appear under a subpoena will not be released until after the court has accepted a guilty plea. In the event that the defendant changes his mind and demands a trial, parties will be expected to have all witnesses available.