

# NC BAR ASSOCIATION

## GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

### UPDATE



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#### 148<sup>th</sup> SESSION CONVENES

The 148<sup>th</sup> Session of the North Carolina General Assembly convened on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Among items on the General Assembly's agenda for the 2009-2010 Session are addressing the budget shortfall, mental health services, the state health plan and North Carolina's probation system.

#### PROFILE OF 2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

House of Representatives:

- 68 Democrats, 52 Republicans
- 16 Freshmen Legislators
- 27 Lawyer Legislators

Senate:

- 30 Democrats, 20 Republicans
- 5 Freshmen Legislators
- 16 Lawyer Legislators

#### LAWYER LEGISLATORS IN THE NCGA

Among the 43 lawyers serving in the North Carolina General Assembly, 4 of those have been elected or re-elected to leadership positions.

In the Senate, Senator Tony Rand of Cumberland County was again elected Majority Leader and Senator Phil Berger of Rockingham County retained his role as Minority Leader.

In the House of Representatives, Speaker Joe Hackney of Orange County was elected to his second term as Speaker and Representative Paul Stam of Wake County retained his role as Minority Leader.

#### INSIDE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Please [click here](#) for a link to the House and Senate calendars, which are updated daily with committee meeting notices and agendas.

#### 2009 NCBA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Board of Governors of the North Carolina Bar Association met on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and approved the Legislative Agenda for the 2009 Session of the General Assembly. Please click the link below to access the Agenda.

[2009 NCBA Legislative Agenda](#)

#### BILL TRACKING

The Office of Governmental Affairs will be reviewing, on a continuing basis, all legislation that is introduced during the 2009 Session and will be referring such legislation to the appropriate sections and committee of the NCBA for further review. Please click the link below to view the legislation currently being tracked by the OGA.

[Bill Tracking Chart](#)

#### ABA

The ABA *Washington Letter*, provided by the ABA Office of Governmental Affairs, provides up-to-date information to the legal profession on federal legislative issues. Please click the link below to access the latest edition.

[January 2009 Washington Letter](#)

#### GAVEL TO GAVEL

Provided by the National Center for State Courts, Gavel to Gavel is a national overview of trends in legislative activity as it relates to the courts. Please click the link below to access the latest edition.

[Gavel to Gavel](#)