



FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

Message From the President

The South Florida Chapter of the Federal Bar Association continues to grow and prosper, reaching unprecedented growth and expansion during the past year. Our principal goals for this year were to increase membership and establish a permanent relationship with the many outstanding law students in our community. With the assistance of our dedicated Board and members, I am pleased to report that we accomplished these and several other important goals.

I am particularly proud of our efforts to reach out to law students. During the past year, we spearheaded the creation of FBA law student chapters at the University of Miami, St. Thomas School of Law, and Florida International University College of Law. We also established an FBA Law Student Mentorship Program, which we kicked off last month, and through which we have paired over 50 law students with FBA members serving as mentors (with many more expected in coming weeks). We now have an active law student membership and pride ourselves on welcoming the next generation into our ranks.

I am also proud to announce that we recently launched our own website (www.fba-sdfla.org) and established a Women’s Lawyer’s Initiative (“WLI”). The goal of the WLI is to encourage dialogue in our legal community on the unique challenges facing women lawyers.



Bernard Pastor,
Chief, Federal Litigation and Appeals, Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office

As usual, our Bankers Club luncheons and annual Judicial Reception (over 800 guests!) were extremely well attended by members of our judiciary, practitioners, federal law clerks, and law students. This year’s featured speakers included Amy Howe, co-founder and editor of SCOTUS blog, and General William Suter, Clerk of the United States Supreme Court. General Suter formally admitted several of our members to the U.S. Supreme Court.

These accomplishments did not go unnoticed, as our chapter received several awards from the FBA at its annual conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. We were also recognized for our rapid and record-setting growth, as our membership increased by 40% just last year alone. We are now the sixth largest chapter in the country!

My sincere thanks and appreciation to our members, particularly the Executive Board, whose hard work and dedication made these wonderful recognitions and accomplishments possible. And thank you to the members of our federal judiciary, who have been consistent supporters. I look forward to working toward our continued success under Ani’s leadership as Chapter president!

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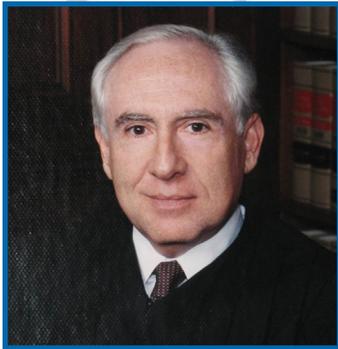
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Edward B. Davis Award for Service to the Federal Bench and Bar.

This year's recipient of the Edward B. Davis award is Judge Stanley Marcus of the Eleventh Circuit, which recognizes those who exemplify the values and actions we treasure as a legal community. Judge Marcus has lived a life of service, including 40 years to public service in the federal courts. Born and raised in New York City, he earned his bachelor's degree from Queens College, City University of New York, *magna cum laude*, and his law degree from the Harvard Law School. In addition to his federal service as an attorney and judge, Judge Marcus also served on active duty in the U.S. Army



in 1969, and served in the Army Reserve through 1974.

Judge Marcus began his legal career as a federal law clerk in U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of New York. After a year in private practice, he began a career with the U.S.

Department of Justice

("DOJ") as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. Later, he became Chief of the Strike Force, which was part of the Organized Crime and Racketeering Section of DOJ. This culminated with his service as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida from 1982 to 1985. He then went on to serve as a U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Florida for 16 years. For the last 12 years, he has served as U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

Throughout his career Judge Marcus has been active with various bar associations, including the Federal Bar Association, and has served on various committees of the Judicial Conference of the United States. He has spoken at past Bankers Club luncheons regarding legal representation in death penalty cases and issues facing the U.S. Court of Appeals.

In addition to his professional achievements, Judge Marcus has been an inspiration to many former law clerks and attorneys who appear before him. At the celebration of his 20-Year Anniversary on the bench, he was greeted by all of his former law clerks, despite the fact that Hurricane Wilma had just damaged many areas in South Florida. Some attendees were still without electricity, but none missed Judge Marcus' celebration.

His legacy includes several former law clerks who are now serving our federal bench and bar. They include U.S. District Judge Robin Rosenbaum, U.S. Magistrate Judge Chris McAliley, and U.S. Attorney Wifredo "Willy" Ferrer. Judge Marcus' law clerks recall that Judge Marcus always made time to ask about family and life in general. Judge Rosenbaum shared that during one of her first days as a law clerk, she asked Judge Marcus what he expected of his law clerks. Judge Marcus smiled and said, "find the right answer under the law and do it" – advice that Judge Rosenbaum employs in her courtroom each day.

Judge Marcus has led a successful life both on and off the bench. He is loved and respected and his legacy is sure to leave a lasting impact on South Florida's legal community for decades to come. We are proud to honor him.

South Florida Recognized at National Convention. This past month, Bernie, chapter president, and Brett, newly elected 11th Circuit Vice President, attended the FBA's Annual Meeting and Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Bernie and Brett attended several sessions designed to enhance our collaboration with the FBA's sections and divisions that will significantly improve our CLE's and other programs. At the Convention, our Chapter was mentioned repeatedly for our exceptional growth and we also received the 2013 Federal Bar Association Chapter Activity Presidential Excellence Award, in recognition of "Superior Chapter Activities in the Areas of Administration, Membership Outreach and Programming." This prestigious award is given each year to just a few chapters that go above and beyond in all the key areas. Our new divisions, popular programs, and growth in membership were some of the achievements that garnered us this recognition. We also received the 2013 Meritorious Newsletter Award, recognizing the high quality of our new quarterly newsletters. We hope you enjoy this one and we'd love your input!



Looking Forward. *The South Florida Chapter is one of the largest in the Federal Bar Association. Our bench and bar comes from diverse backgrounds and is united by our commitment to promoting excellence and civility in federal practice. It has been inspiring to serve this chapter under past Presidents Brett Barfield and Bernie Pastor, and I look forward to serving you and promoting the best in federal practice in South Florida and across the nation.*

Incoming President, Ana Maria "Ani" Martinez.



Women Lawyers Initiative. The Women Lawyers Initiative held a great event on June 4th. Dr. Amy Singer, a Trial Consultant and Psychologist, spoke to a packed room on how gender roles affect jurors' perception of male and female lawyers in the courtroom. And on November 7th, the Women Lawyer's Initiative will hold a special lunchtime CLE seminar, *Social Media and the Courtroom*. Criminal defense lawyer David O. Markus, civil litigator and former judge Mary Barzee Flores, Assistant United States Attorney Barbara Martinez, and Assistant Federal Public Defender Sowmya Bharathi will discuss evidentiary issues surrounding the use of social media in trial and hearings, and relate practice pointers regarding the effective use of social media in the courtroom.

Law Clerks/Young Lawyers Division. In recent months, the Chapter's Law Clerks / Young Lawyers Division hosted two fun, informative and well-attended events. In May, the YLD partnered with Cannonball Miami (formerly Legal Art) for a Gallery Night at Cannonball's downtown artists-in-residence facility. FBA members interacted with local emerging artists and learned of ways to contribute to the arts through pro bono legal representation. In February, we held a Jazz Night at Avenue D in downtown Miami. The event featured a lecture on the history of jazz in South Florida and was attended by almost 100 young lawyers.

Chapter Membership Increases to 453! Our Chapter made extraordinary strides in membership in 2013. During this past year, our membership increased from 323 to 453, a 40% increase. Our Chapter is now the largest in the 11th Circuit and the 6th largest in the country (last year, we were the 12th largest).



FBA Launches Law Student Mentoring Program. The Chapter's Inaugural Mentorship Kickoff Event was a huge success! Over 100 law students, judicial clerks, and practitioners gathered to officially launch the Chapter's Mentorship Program. The Mentorship Program provides Miami-Dade area law students with the ability to be matched with federal practitioners, providing those students with a valuable resource as they transition into the practice of law. The event, which was sponsored by Blue Martini, provided law students with an opportunity to meet their FBA mentors and also network with dozens of other lawyers in attendance.



There are already over 50 students benefitting from the program, but there are many more waiting to be paired with attorneys. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, please e-mail Yaniv Adar at yadar@homerbonner.com.

To join or become active in an FBA committee, visit our chapter website, www.fba-sdfla.org, or send an email to: federalbar.southflorida@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Annual Awards &
Installation Dinner
October 25, 2013

FBA Women Lawyers
Initiative
CLE Seminar: Social Media
and the Courtroom
November 7, 2013

Bankers Club Luncheon
Guest Speaker: Amy Howe,
Editor, SCOTUS Blog
November 13, 2013

Bankers Club Luncheon
January 15, 2014

Federal Court Orientation
Program
January 31, 2014

Federal Judicial Reception
February 27, 2014

Visit our new website at
www.fba-sdfla.org

Become a mentor today!

Email Yaniv Adar at
yadar@homerbonner.com

Newsletter Editors

Yara Lorenzo
Clayton Solomon

Have a suggestion for future
newsletter content?

Email the committee at federalbar.southflorida@gmail.com
Attn: Newsletter Committee

2013 Boardroom Lunch Series. The Chapter's "Boardroom Lunches" are some of our most popular events because of the casual, small group setting. The first Boardroom Lunch of the summer took place in June at the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office and featured guest speaker U.S. District Judge Alan Gold, who shared his views on mindfulness in the law. That was followed in July by a lunch at the offices of White & Case LLP featuring U.S. District Judge Cecilia Altonaga, who shared insights into trends at the court and discussed how her experience as a judge on the Miami-Dade County Court and Circuit Court prepared her for the District Court bench. The third lunch was hosted by Holland & Knight LLP



and featured Col. Daniel Lecce, who is the Staff Judge Advocate at the U.S. Southern Command in Doral, Florida. Col. Lecce explained the Southern Command's various missions, as well as his office's legal responsibilities. The fourth and final Boardroom Lunch took place in September at the U.S. Attorney's Office and featured U.S. District Judge Donald Middlebrooks, who spoke about the court's participation in the patent litigation pilot program, the crafting of Eleventh Circuit pattern jury instructions, and the effects of sequestration.

Bankers Club Luncheon Series. Our monthly Bankers Club Luncheons invite distinguished guests or panels to discuss timely issues affecting the federal bar. In April, the Chapter's guest speaker was Professor Scott Rogers, founder and director of the Institute for Mindfulness Studies with the University of Miami School of Law. We were fortunate to have another legal expert in June, when we hosted Professor Michael Allen, who gave a presentation titled "The Fragile Independence of the Judiciary: The Role of the Bar." Professor Allen is the Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Strategic Initiatives at Stetson University College of Law and serves as the director of Stetson's Veteran's Law Institute.

At our October luncheon, we were pleased to welcome back Bruce Moyer, Esq., Government Relations Counsel to the FBA, who last spoke to our chapter in May 2011. Bruce advises and represents the FBA in Washington on policy issues that involve the federal court system, its funding, operations, and jurisprudence. His appearance at our luncheon was timely, having occurred during the federal government shutdown. Bruce discussed the critical issues faced not only by the federal judiciary as a whole, but also the Southern District of Florida in particular, where there are not only vacancies to be filled, but also a need for the creation of additional federal judgeships.

FBA Hosts Gen. Suter, Clerk, U.S. Supreme Court. General Suter, the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States was our guest speaker in May. In connection with his appearance, several of our members were admitted to the Bar for the Supreme Court of the United States, and General Suter graciously administered the Oath of Admission to those members. He also entertained our members with several anecdotes from his many years serving the Supreme Court as its Clerk. He has since retired from that position, and we were delighted to have him for his last FBA appearance as Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States.

