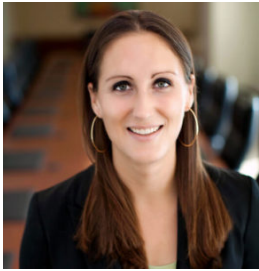




FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER



President's Message

As we prepare to honor our judiciary at the popular, annual Federal Bar Association, South Florida Chapter judicial reception, we also kick off a new series of judicial interviews to allow our members the chance to get to know a little bit more about the judges we practice before. The first of these interviews is with the Honorable Judge Cecilia Altonaga. In the interview, Judge Altonaga talks about her journey to becoming a lawyer, then a state court judge, and finally a Federal District Court Judge, and offers some words of wisdom for lawyers at all stages in their careers. I hope you will enjoy getting to know Judge Altonaga a little better, and that it will leave you looking forward to the next installment of our judicial interview series.

The Chapter is also preparing to host the 2021 Federal Bar Association National Convention, which will be held on September 22-25, 2021. We are looking forward to this exciting opportunity to showcase our vibrant legal community, beautiful city, and Miami culture with federal judges and practitioners from all across the country. Please stay tuned for more information on how you can attend, participate in a CLE panel, or get involved with one of our planning committees. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events! – Alaina Fotiu-Wojtowicz, alaina@bfwlegal.com

February 6th is the 39th Annual Judicial Reception! On Thursday, February 6, 2020, the South Florida Chapter of the Federal Bar Association will host our 39th Annual Federal Judicial Reception to honor our federal judges. The reception will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Historic Alfred I. duPont Building, located at 169 E. Flagler Street, Miami Florida, 33131. This is our most well-attended event of the year, where over 600 attendees will mingle, network, and socialize with the judiciary and their peers in a stunning venue with delicious food and drinks. More details on the event, tickets, and sponsorship opportunities are available at: <https://fba-sdfla.org/event/fbas-39th-annual-federal-judicial-reception-2/>. We hope to see you at the event!

Interview with the Honorable Cecilia M. Altonaga, Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida – Interview by Christopher J. Wahl



Why did you decide to become a lawyer? Did you know any lawyers while you were growing up?

My father was a lawyer in Cuba, and when he came to this country after the Castro revolution, he worked in the insurance business. He was a claims adjuster and then he managed Maryland Casualty Company, and so that's why I was born in Baltimore. From Baltimore, he was transferred to Puerto Rico, where I lived for a few years before coming to Miami. So all of this time he was working for Maryland Casualty Company. And when we make it to Florida, there was an opportunity offered by the University of Florida to Cuban lawyers to take course work and sit for the Florida Bar and become Florida lawyers, and he was part of that first group of Cuban lawyers. They would sometimes actually be flown to Gainesville. They would take these little plane rides to Gainesville to take some classes geared to them. These were all former practicing Cuban attorneys who here couldn't practice law.

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They took some course work here as well, and he then sat for the Bar, and he passed it his first time. When I was a young teenager, he transitioned from working for Maryland Casualty Company to becoming a solo practitioner. It was kind of a scary period in our lives because you don't have that steady source of income. He and two other Cuban lawyers who had passed the Bar with him opened an office – a law practice on Flagler Street in what is now Little Havana – and he started doing anything that came in the door, from family law to personal injury, and his partner did real estate closings. I found myself going there on summers and on breaks, working with my dad and his partners drafting letters, doing discovery – all on a typewriter, mind you, with carbon copy of everything. And so that was my first introduction to the law and that was how I viewed the law practice; that's all I knew. And so when I was in college, pursuing what most of us (lawyers) do, which is political science and English, these sort of liberal arts majors, it was a natural progression to say, "I'm going to take the LSAT," and just go and study and be that which my father is. That's why I decided to be a lawyer, because from a young age I had seen him working so hard to become one again here, succeeding at it, and then having me work with him and his partners, so it was sort of a natural progression.

It was actually eye-opening as a youngster because you would come home from school, and he would come home from a long day at work, and he would just hole himself up in the study, and just study and study and study, and we had to be quiet; we had to mind the fact that our father was studying. It was sort of like a second job; he was working full-time, sustaining us, and also pursuing this at a later stage in his life. It was very risky for him; he was risk averse, and I think this was the riskiest thing he ever did, besides leaving Cuba.

You received your law degree from Yale Law School, arguably one of the most prestigious law schools in the country. What was your experience like there?

Goodness, that's a hard question to answer. Initially, it was the most difficult thing I've ever done from many perspectives. First of all, I stayed at home when I went to college. We didn't have the financial wherewithal to send me away like all young college students would like to do; to have that college experience and to live on campus. So, I stayed at home, worked full-time while I went to college, and this was my first time living away for an extended period of time besides some foreign travel I had done. I lived in Argentina for the summer before I went to law school, studying down there, but it was a totally different environment from South Florida, if you have been to New Haven, Connecticut. The Ivy League world is a totally

different world from the world I came from. There was always the sense of, and I think for most of us 1Ls at Yale, there is always the sense of, "my goodness, was I the mistake the admissions committee made?" But I think it was more pronounced for a lot of us who came from state schools, and so I worked really, really hard. I lived on campus all three years because I didn't have the ability to afford anything off campus. I lived on campus, I had the meal plan on campus, and I completely immersed myself in everything that had to do with Yale Law. I found as every semester came by that I would survive, as I say, and do well, and found that I enjoyed it more and more. So by my third year, I decided, for example, my fall semester of third year, to just try on moot court, and decided that I just wanted to do that and went all the way to the final round and then got on the Moot Court Board the following semester. So I was very involved in everything having to do with Yale Law, but by the same token, while you work hard and you do well and you develop your circle of friends and peers, it was an environment that was very different from anything I had ever known or have known since. Now I go back all the time because I have a daughter who attends Yale College, and so I get to relive that all the time. Even though at my 30th law school reunion, I vowed I would never go back because I thought we were too old to keep going back, now I'm going back all the time. But it was definitely rewarding.

After graduating from law school, you became an Assistant County Attorney for the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office. How did you come to work there, and what was your experience like working there?

My first and second summer from law school, I worked in big law and summered here in Miami my first summer at Holland & Knight; my second summer, Baker McKenzie in the DC and Rio de Janeiro offices. That's what I knew of law, and I had a friend in law school, William Hill, who had spent his first summer at the County Attorney's Office. We were having lunch one day in the cafeteria, and he started talking to me about, you know, you're going back to Miami, you might want to look into this office. The County Attorney, Robert Ginsburg, would come every year to Yale to interview; it was one of those local government practices that would actually come to our law school to interview. I was in my third year in law school, and I decided to do on-campus interviewing with Bob Ginsburg, and I did. And what I offered to him was a little bit different from what he was used to, because I was obviously going to be graduating. I wasn't looking for a summer clerk position, but I had already accepted a clerkship offer from Judge Davis to clerk for him as his February clerk. I had the fall after I took after the Bar exam open, and I suggested to Bob Ginsburg that he hire me as a fall clerk, something the

County Attorney's Office didn't normally do. And I explained to him why, and he offered me the position to work for him in the fall. So, I actually joined the County Attorney's Office having taken and passed the Bar, and I was technically an attorney but was occupying the position of law clerk because I was only going to be there for four months. And so I worked for the four months, clerked for Judge Davis, and returned to the County. I thought it was just an amazing opportunity to practice with a group of really fine lawyers, to be involved in the community, and to be of counsel to those who are making really important decisions that affect everybody's lives.

You were once a state court judge, having served on the County and Circuit Courts for Miami-Dade County. Why did you decide to try to become a state court judge, and what was your experience like?

I did not practice law with the thought that I would one day be a judge – that was not in my long-range plan. Most of my practice at the County Attorney's Office, to the extent I was in court, I was in state and County Court. I had a few federal matters, but not that many. I just remember reaching a stage at one point, hearing about a County Court opening and having conversations with people close to me, and they said, "Why don't you try? The worst thing that can happen is that you're not selected." I thought about it and thought, I think this would be really rewarding for me. I really enjoyed my clerkship with the Judge. I felt like I had practiced sufficiently in state court that I would know enough (and) at least on the civil side of the docket to do a good job, and I applied and got that County Court position and have been on the bench ever since.

Why did you later decide to try to become a federal court judge?

I started with Judge Davis working in federal court, and this is a dream. Being a judge is an amazing experience, be it state court or federal court. I love every day I go to work. I love the challenges. I love having issues presented to me that I have to think about and work through and reach, hopefully, the right decisions. You have so many more resources in federal court than you do on the state court bench. You have lawyers working for you and with you, which I didn't have as a state court judge. You have the ability to engage in judicial decision-making truly with the promise of independence. There are certain constraints when you practice as a judge in an elected position, and you're aware of those, and here you just have to do the best that you can every day to try to reach the right result without having to think about putting together a re-election committee every six years. So certainly the job security is something that is appealing to

all judges, and the quality of the work that you are able to produce as a federal judge is maximized, again, by having lawyers working with you and having the time and resources to produce written decisions at the highest quality.

Let's talk a little bit about the mechanics of legal practice, one major component of which is writing. As a judge, you spend much time reading briefs and writing opinions. What makes for effective legal writing?

The style, the substance, and the attention to detail. Effective legal writing starts with, how are the thoughts expressed? How are you going to organize that document that you are putting together and in what sequence are you going to tackle the issues? What is the substance that you are going to include into every topic that you intend on addressing? And then you carefully review and edit and re-edit so that your work product is as near perfect as you can make it. You make your strongest points, and you make them with supporting authority. That's all the substance. What the lawyers do on their side in terms of producing quality writing is the same we judges do on our side, hopefully, which is to think about the structure. How am I going to structure this opinion? What issues am I going to address and do I need to address? How am I going to address them? Again, the substance: How am I reaching this conclusion? Do I have support for the conclusion? And then you express it in, hopefully, plain English that is understandable to any reader. Because we are not just writing for the lawyers, we are writing ultimately for the parties, who receive our decisions and want to know why the judge reached her decision this way or that way. And they can read the decision and understand why they may have prevailed or not prevailed and at least have a sense. I've always tried to do that, from my earliest days in County Court. A lot of the trials that we would have in County Court were bench trials, and there's the temptation to rule from the bench when you can. But sometimes I would take matters under advisement, and even as a County Court judge, I would sit down and write an opinion because I thought, at the end of the day, these litigants at least can read the reasons, as opposed to just hearing them, and sometimes when you give oral pronouncements or oral rulings from the bench, that litigant has so much going on in his or her head, they are in a courtroom, it's very stressful, and there is a lot of information that you are throwing at them. When they walk out of your courtroom, how much did they gather? If you give them a written decision, they can read it, they can re-read it, they can talk to their lawyers about it, or if they were pro se, they can consider what you wrote and at least know that you took your time, you explained yourself, and you gave them some citations to authority or to the record for why you reached the result

you reached. Hopefully they'll have a sense that they were given due process and, whether they prevailed or didn't prevail, they had their day in court.

Oral advocacy is much less a part of motion practice in federal court than it is in state court. What utility do you see in holding oral argument or a status conference as part of motion practice, whether dispositive or not, in your court?

I think a number of my colleagues are doing this as well as I am, but for the reader who has appeared in my courtroom, or who has had cases with me, they might be familiar with my practice of setting matters down for hearing. I generally set matters down for hearing because the parties ask me to or because the matter is really complicated and I want to get some clarification on some issues. But there is a third category of matters that I set down for hearing, and those are the matters I think I can resolve from the bench that will not result in a written opinion. Because if I wrote on every motion, if I wrote an opinion resolving every motion, my docket would not be up to date and it would be difficult to keep my scheduling orders intact because I wouldn't be able to meet those deadlines. So there are a certain number of motions that I set down for hearing because I think I can resolve them, I can rule from the bench, and I can give the parties an indication that these are the counts in the complaint that are surviving, these are the ones that are not, this is why you need to amend your complaint, go draft the amended complaint. It moves the case along more quickly than if I had to hold off and enter a written opinion. Would I like to write on every matter? I would prefer that than oral argument, certainly, but just the volume of what we've got doesn't make that practical.

So in terms of oral advocacy, I think it's really important for lawyers to, first of all, review that which you're going to court to address, not just your motion or your response, but the other side's. And review the cases that are cited and go a little bit beyond that. Take a look and see, did Judge Altonaga ever write on this particular topic which I might have overlooked when I was engaged in the written briefing, which I shouldn't have overlooked during the written briefing, but if I did, I can address it at oral argument? And then be prepared to concede on points that you don't think you are going to prevail on because it increases your credibility. If you can say, "Look, Judge, we withdraw our objection to this point or we withdraw the motion to dismiss count II, we recognize it does state a claim for relief," and focus on that on which you think you can prevail. Listen to the court, listen to the question, try to answer the question, and make your strongest points. Don't think you're in a debate competition in high school, where you're speaking really,

really quickly and trying to get in as many words as possible for points. Make sure that you're maintaining eye contact with the judge and she is following what you're saying, and that the court reporter is following what you're saying, to maximize the opportunity you've been given to persuade with your oral advocacy.

You mentioned maintaining your scheduling orders intact, which takes me to the next point, which is that you're known for being an efficient and speedy case and docket manager. Is your efficiency and speediness intentional? If so, why?

Yes, it's intentional. The reason why is that I assume that every litigant that I have, be it in a civil case or a criminal case, does not want to be a litigant, does not want to be a plaintiff, does not want to be a defendant; except, of course, perhaps the government on the criminal side of the docket, they're clearly doing that which they are supposed to do. But most litigants don't want to be embroiled in litigation. There's a lot of anxiety that's involved in being a defendant. There's a lot of anxiety that's involved in being someone who thinks they've been wronged and who's a litigant. And if I drag it out, if I drag out that unpleasant chapter in that person's or that company's life, dragging it out simply because of inefficiency, not because I'm actually trying to resolve a really difficult issue, but if I'm dragging it out because I can't get to it or I'm not on top of my docket, then I am increasing the anxiety. I'm increasing the expense. I'm holding off a final decision on something, on an issue, that a litigant wants the court to decide or a jury to decide, and I don't think that much is gained by it. To the extent that I have to delay matters, I would hope that I'm delaying them because I'm awaiting some clarification from the Florida Supreme Court or the Eleventh Circuit on a point of law. In part if I'm going to hold a case off while I await some clarification, that's also minimizing expense to the litigants. That's telling them to hold off until the Florida Supreme Court gives us some direction. To the extent I hold off finalizing a case because I'm trying to work out a number of difficult issues, well I'm hoping to get you the right result, not because I'm not working on it. I think it behooves us judges to be as efficient as we can to minimize what I call "expense"; and by expense, I'm not just talking dollars and cents, I'm talking about the emotional drain that's involved to litigants in not having their cases reached when we told them we're going to reach them, and not having some closure.

How do you view your role as a judge within the context of society as a whole, not just in the legal profession, but as a member of society?

I consider myself very, very fortunate. I think all of us who occupy the position of judge, in whatever court, are

very fortunate. We have a great responsibility to do that with which we've been tasked at the highest level, to our best ability. We are fallible, we make mistakes, and that's why you have higher courts letting you know when you do. But within larger societies, this is a country of laws, and I think people come to this country and want to live here because we are a country of laws, because nobody is above the law. We can have order and we can have a peaceful society and peaceful transitions because people know they have courts they can go to to have their controversies addressed, and addressed in an orderly and efficient manner. We Judges are ambassadors for the whole concept of law and order and the whole concept of this country being a country of laws.

You're known for being dedicated to your family, particularly your three daughters. How have you balanced family responsibilities with professional responsibilities?

And now a grandson, by the way. I don't know, I look back; right now I don't have any kids living at home anymore, they're all gone. And during the time when you're balancing work and family, no differently than practicing lawyers, and especially litigators and even those handling large deals, how do you balance family and work? But you have to do it if you want to continue being a professional, if you still enjoy what you're doing as a lawyer or as a judge. And you have to do it in a way that's responsible and responsive to both family and the client and/or whatever work environment you work in, and try to keep balance. Pick and choose what it is you can volunteer for, pick and choose what it is you think you can follow through with. Don't take on more than what you can do, and don't take on more than the hours in a day allow you to actually complete and complete to the best of your ability.

What advice would you give to newer lawyers?

When I swear in young lawyers, I always tell them, "Hold on to this oath and look at it. Don't just send it off to the Florida Bar, and think, 'Okay, I'll just hang up whatever I need to hang up on my walls.' Have it handy and look at it from time to time because that will remind you of the essentials, that will remind you of that which you promised as a professional you would abide by, and don't ever forget those promises." So to young lawyers, those who are starting out, look at that oath, remind yourself of that. Look for mentors, seek out people who are successful at what they do and who practice with the highest ethics, and try to have them as your mentors, to review your work, to balance ideas off of. In any office environment where you're working, if you're just a solo practitioner like my dad was, look for those mentors outside that setting, that you can go to to advise you, so

you don't make mistakes that you regret. And so you build a solid reputation. As we judges are often known to comment, it's easy to lose that reputation by making mistakes, it's hard to build it back up once you've made mistakes. So be very careful and conscientious and remind yourself all the time that you're a professional, you've worked really, really hard to get where you are, and you need to continue working hard while at the same time balancing all the demands upon your time.

What advice would you give to more experienced lawyers?

Continue looking at that oath, don't forget what it was you promised many, many years ago. To more experienced lawyers, remember to balance, remember that while you're in the thick of it, when you're in the thick of that deal, when you're in the thick of that case that's going to trial and you're preparing it, try to keep balance. Don't be afraid to ask for accommodations so that you don't let the work demands become too great and they end up affecting you. We have seen so much and read so much lately, not just lately, but about the need for wellness, the need for taking care of the mental health of our lawyers, about mindfulness, about trying to make sure the profession isn't too demanding. So as lawyers advance and they reach those goals of doing quality work, having a good reputation, and doing well, pace yourself and take care of yourself.

What advice would you give to new judges?

The advice I would give new judges is to try to look for role models and learn from them, no different than lawyers do. Try in the early stages to get some mentoring from judges whom you respect and admire so you can emulate their best practices. And just remind yourself every day of just how lucky you are; don't ever forget how lucky you are. Approach every day with that conviction that you are blessed and do the very best that you can.

Do you have any other thoughts that you want to impart?

I would say, our Southern District of Florida, where I have been lucky enough, fortunate enough to have been working all these years, is very, very well positioned to deliver that quality product that you and I have been talking about. We have a number of new appointments. We were operating with a number of vacancies, most of which have been filled. We only have two vacancies right now. And I think that allows for all of us to be able to engage in the quality decision-making that this District is known for. I think communications with the bench and the bar are great. The Federal Bar Association, in

conjunction with the Judges, is keeping these lines of communications open, and it all looks very promising.

Chapter Highlights

The Education & CLE Committee works to promote CLE events sponsored on behalf of the South Florida Chapter of the FBA. Each year, the CLE Committee hosts an ethics seminar, where attendees hear from members of the federal judiciary as well as leaders in the community as to the most pressing ethical issues of the time, including issues in civil, criminal, and appellate disciplines. The Committee ensures that the Florida Bar approves its seminars for credit in advance, thus ensuring ease for the members to obtain their credit. The CLE Committee also acts as a liaison for its members to the National FBA and its many CLE offerings throughout the year. Here are some highlights from this year, so far. – *Tal Lifshitz*, tjl@kttl.com, & *Jessica McDonald*, jmcdonald@malloylaw.com



On September 11, 2019, at the FBA South Florida Chapter's inaugural 2019-20 Hyatt Luncheon, the FBA was honored to present **United States District Judge Rodolfo A. Ruiz II**. Judge Ruiz began by discussing the differences between serving on the state and federal benches, especially with respect to the larger amount of time and resources that federal judges have

to focus on their cases. Judge Ruiz then transitioned to the issue of implicit bias, and explained how having more time and resources helps judges eliminate implicit bias, which appears more when people are forced to make snap decisions without much time. The Judge cited specific examples from his own experiences of how implicit bias can sneak its way into decision making, and explained how learning about implicit bias has helped him make better decisions as a judge. Judge Ruiz also discussed how education and training are key to eliminating implicit bias. The Judge concluded by urging the members of the audience to “go hug a state court judge” for all the work they do with a higher a case volume and fewer resources. Judge Ruiz also spent some time answering questions from the audience. Thank you to all who attended, and special thanks to Judge Ruiz for sharing his insights on eliminating implicit bias.



On October 15, 2019, at 11:45 a.m., the FBA's South Florida Chapter was pleased to present **Senior United States District Judge Patricia A. Seitz** and **United States Bankruptcy Judge Laurel M. Isicoff**, who presented on the **CARE Court**, a reentry program that helps returning citizens become functioning, law-abiding, and productive community members.

On November 20, 2019, we were pleased to welcome back **Amy Howe, Esq.**, reporter and former editor of *SCOTUSblog*, now affiliated via “Howe on the Court.” Before turning to full-time blogging, she served as counsel in over two dozen merits cases at the Supreme Court and argued two cases there. Amy discussed her reporting and thoughts on the United States Supreme Court, her own experiences reporting on the Court, as well as notable cases in the upcoming term on issues ranging from First Amendment issues, gun control, DACA, “Bridgagate,” and more. Thank you Amy for returning and giving another excellent presentation!

On December 4, 2019, at 5:00 P.M., the CACD, together with Greenspoon Marder and our colleagues from the Broward County, South Florida, and Palm Beach Chapters of the FBA, were honored to present a talk by experts and practitioners at the front lines of cyber security to help guide the modern lawyer through the looming threat of data breaches. The learned presenters showed the extent of the threat faced, and how best counsel can better prepare to prevent, detect, and protect from the aftermath of data breaches. Thank you to our speakers:

- Kyle Loven, National Director of Computer Forensic Services;
- Jason Manar, Supervisory Special Agent, Miami Division-Cyber Crime, Federal Bureau of Investigation; and
- Lauren Pilkington-Rich, Assistant General Counsel, Raymond James Financial, Inc.

Upcoming Events

Civics & Outreach Committee: Volunteers Needed!

The South Florida Chapter of the Federal Bar Association regularly facilitates a program called Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions in conjunction with federal judges sitting in Miami, local FBA attorneys, and local high schools. In early 2017, Southern District of Florida **Judges Robin Rosenberg and Beth Bloom**, in connection with the National Outreach Manager for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, conceived of and created this educational program. The program has promoted positive decision-making and civility among high school and college students in the Southern District of Florida for the last three years and has become a national model.



The three-hour courtroom-based program invites local high school students to come to federal court. It opens with an attention-getting, reality check quiz on the students' knowledge of the legal consequences that their everyday decisions can trigger. The heart of the program revolves around a mock argument based in part on the facts and holding of *Elonis v. United States*, a Supreme Court case concerning threats made via rap lyrics. Student attorneys deliver arguments before the federal

judge presiding over the program, and their classmates, the vast majority of students, serve as jurors. The culmination of the event is a lively jury deliberation followed by an explanation of the rationale and holding of the *Elonis* decision. And the program concludes with a discussion between the students and presiding judge about the answers to the reality check quiz, highlighting the consequences of real-life actions.

The program provides students with an opportunity to discuss candidly, and receive input from a federal judge about, the importance of their life choices and potential consequences. Additionally, it allows students to experience the thrill and excitement of arguing in court and experience the courtroom setting, while practicing civil discourse skills. It also provides students with a glimpse into what it is like to serve as jurors.

The Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions program continues to be a success because of FBA attorney volunteers who coach the student attorneys and facilitate the jury deliberation discussion. To date, FBA attorney volunteers for the program have included Assistant U.S. Attorneys, Assistant Federal Public Defenders, Assistant County Attorneys, SEC attorneys, federal judicial law clerks, and attorneys in private practice. These FBA attorney volunteers also range from recent law school graduates to lawyers with more than 30 years of experience. Our Chapter is always looking for FBA attorney volunteers to assist with the program. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, please contact the Civics and Community Outreach Attorney Volunteer Coordinator, Tom Graham, at graham@leesfield.com. We are hosting the program on **Friday, February 7, 2020, and Friday, March 6, 2020**. We hope you will consider volunteering. *Stephanie Turk*, sturk@stearnsweaver.com.

South Florida to Host the 2021 Annual Meeting & Convention!

The South Florida Chapter will proudly be hosting the Federal Bar Association's 2021 Annual Meeting and Convention. The Annual Meeting and Convention will take place from September 22-25, 2021, and will feature several programs and events of value to the federal bench and bar. In addition to a broad range of CLE programs presented by federal judges and practitioners, the convention will offer a number of networking opportunities for hundreds of attendees, and will culminate with the installation of the FBA's national president on Saturday, September 25, 2021. There will be opportunities to meet attorneys and judges from around the country, participate in wellness events, and attend luncheons featuring notable speakers. The FBA's national sections and committees will also meet during the convention. Sponsorship opportunities will be available, and inquiries regarding the event can be directed to Alaina Fotiu-Wojtowicz, the Chapter's President, and to Oliver A. Ruiz, the Chair of the 2021 Annual Meeting and Convention Committee. – *Oliver Ruiz*, oruiz@malloylaw.com

FBA Hyatt Luncheon with Hon. Roy K. Altman

On Wednesday, March 25, 2020, the FBA is pleased to present **United States District Judge Roy K. Altman**. Judge Altman will present *A Guide for the Perplexed: How Public Service (Trial) Work Really is the Answer to Your Career Goals*. One hour of CLE is pending approval, and the Hyatt Regency offers vegetarian/vegan lunch options, too. More details are available at <https://fba-sdfla.org/event/fba-hyatt-luncheon-with-hon-roy-k-altman/>.



If you are not already a member, join the FBA's South Florida Chapter today! Members have access to a wide array of events involving the judiciary, notable speakers, and lawyers in our community. Please visit our website for more information, <http://fba-sdfla.org/membership>.

Become a member today!