# FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION



Tampa Bay Chapter

Volume 2, Issue 2 October 2016

### **Judge Kovachevich Receives National FBA Honor**

#### **By Katherine Earle Yanes**

At the Federal Bar Association's annual convention in Cleveland in September, the Federal Bar Association honored one of Tampa Bay's pioneering women in the legal profession with a lifetime achievement award. United States District Judge Elizabeth Kovachevich (known to all as "Judge K"), who next year will celebrate her thirty-fifth year on the federal bench and her forty-fifth as a judge, is the 2016 recipient of the Federal Bar Association's Earl W. Kintner Award for Distinguished Service. The Tampa Bay Chapter. which was itself presented with a Presidential Excellence Award at the convention, is deeply proud to see the longest-serving active member of our Board Directors earn such prestigious of national recognition. Only individuals who have displayed long-term achievement, distinguished leadership, and participation in the activities of the Federal Bar Association both locally and across the country are considered for this award. The fact that this was the second time in our Chapter's history that one of our members was selected for the Association's highest honor (Jim Felman won in 2012) is an indication of how influential and well-regarded our Chapter has become in the national organization.

This award recognizes Judge K as a living legend in the Middle District of Florida and our Chapter. For women lawyers in the Tampa Bay Area and beyond, Judge K cleared a path. She was the third female lawyer in St. Petersburg when she graduated second in her class from Stetson University College of Law in 1961. In the same year that she became the first woman elected to the circuit court bench in the Sixth Judicial Circuit, the Knights of Columbus named her



#### Judge Kovachevich accepts the Earl W. Kintner Award for Distinguished Service

as their "Man of the Year." After she took the federal bench in 1982, she quickly assumed a key role in shaping the Middle District as we know it today. Judge K began the Federal Judicial Internship program in 1989 with one Stetson law student. Since then, more than 1,000 students from Stetson and across the United States have participated in the

program. Judge K was vital to the integration of the Ft. Myers Division into the District in 1989, handling the criminal caseload in Ft. Myers while carrying a

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full docket in Tampa for years during one of the busiest times in the District's history. Later, when she became Chief Judge of the Middle District, she established Orlando as the District's center. The district began its transition to electronic filing under Judge K's leadership. Judge K was also involved in securing funding for and overseeing the construction of the United States Courthouses in Tampa (completed in 1997), Ft. Myers (1998), and Jacksonville (2003). At the same time as the construction proceeded, the district sorely needed additional judgeships. Judge K, with Federal Bar participation, put together a campaign. Judge K and Tampa Bay Chapter lawyers travelled to Washington D.C. to lobby our elected representatives for the judges our District needed. The end result was four new judgeships for the Middle District.

As a member of the Tampa Bay Chapter's Board of Directors since 1993, Judge K was instrumental in the founding of our nationally acclaimed Federal Sentencing Seminar, which for many years was the primary source of funding for all of our Chapter activities. Her annual behind-the-scenes courthouse tour is a fixture of our calendar, and she has been a champion for us at every opportunity. She secured the attendance of four United States Supreme Court Justices at the Chapter's gala dinners: Justice Thomas in 1997, Justice Scalia in 1998, Chief Justice Rehnquist in 1999, and Justice Alito in 2007. The nature of her reputation is such that when our Chapter's president, Anne-Leigh Moe, met one of our sitting United States Supreme Court Justices at an FBA event in Washington, D.C. several years ago, his first words upon learning that she was from Tampa were to please give his best regards to Judge K.

At every meeting of our Board, Judge K's charge to us is consistent: provide value to you, our members. Today we are over five hundred members strong, and as we continue to grow we remain focused on that objective. In the midst of our growth and success, it is fitting that the Association recognizes the value of Judge K's contribution to the federal bar.

When you see her next, please join me in saying congratulations to Judge K.

### **2016 – 2017 TBCFBA Officers and Board of Directors**

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### **Upcoming Chapter Events**

- Nov. 2 Reception honoring new United States Magistrate Judge Amanda A. Sansone
- Nov. 4 What You Need to Know About Practicing in the Middle District of Florida
- Nov. 21 Legal Writing Workshop with Bryan A. Garner
- Dec. 8 Annual Luncheon

### **FBA Annual Meeting and Convention**

In September, the Federal Bar Association hosted its 2016 Annual Meeting and Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Six members of the Tampa Bay Chapter attended, including Judge Kovachevich, who was presented with the Earl W. Kintner Award for Distinguished Service. The Tampa Bay Chapter received the Presidential Excellence Award and Meritorious Newsletter Award and was recognized for its significant membership growth. We are excited to begin preparing for the 2019 FBA Annual Meeting and Convention in Tampa, Florida!



**Presidential Excellence Award recipients** 



Judge Kovachevich receives the Earl W. Kintner Award



**Meritorious Newsletter Award recipients** 



**Recognition of Highest Growth Chapters** 



The Ohio State Alumni Band celebrates the FBA achieving its annual membership goal

October 2016

### **Honoring United States Magistrate Judge Jenkins**

On April 28, 2016, the Chapter hosted approximately 175 lawyers, judges, former law clerks, court personnel, and friends at the Courthouse Ballroom of Le Méridien Tampa to celebrate the retirement of U.S. Magistrate Judge Elizabeth A. Jenkins. The audience heard numerous tributes to Judge Jenkins. U.S. Eleventh Circuit Judge Charles R. Wilson, who formerly served as a United States Magistrate Judge with Judge Jenkins, recalled the verdict of the other judges that Judge Jenkins was "a great colleague." Chief U.S. District Judge Steven Merryday described the "warmth and affection" he felt for Judge Jenkins, and thanked her for her "extraordinary contributions to justice." Assistant U.S. Attorney Josie Thomas, speaking as one of the judge's former law clerks, told the judge that "you demanded excellence of us, and you knew it was good for us."

In her own remarks, Judge Jenkins told the audience that although being a judge "was the best job in the world," "it's time" to start a new chapter. She noted that when she took the bench in 1985, typewriters were still in use, and that no doubt helped explain why "orders were shorter then, and motions were too." She described how much she enjoyed working on cases with her clerks, and said that "the future of the profession is in good hands," adding that "we can never have too many peacemakers and never have too many problem solvers."

Judge Jenkins still plans to serve on recall status and she explained that "If I thought I would never put on a robe again, I would be very sad." She described plans for travel and spending time with family. On behalf of the FBA Chapter, President Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe thanked Judge Jenkins for her service, and presented her with the chapter's gift of an inscribed rocking chair.



Judge Jenkins surrounded by present and former law clerks and family



Margaret Mathews, Mike Hooker, Elaine Terenzi, and Chief Judge Merryday



Mark Horwitz, Susan Horwitz, Judge Jenkins, and Tom Elligett

### **Judge Jenkins' Retirement Celebration (cont'd)**



Judge Sansone, Judge Jenkins, and Judge Sneed



Andrea Baldwin, Cathy Morgan, and Raequel Tomsich



Manny Menendez, Judge Whittemore, and Chris Altenbernd



Judge Scriven, Lara Fernandez, and Chris Griffin



Chapter President Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe, Ron Cacciatore, and Judge Kovachevich



Jim Murphy and Jeff Warren



Joe Collins, Bobby O'Neill, and Judge Pizzo



Judge Jenkins with present and former law clerks and court personnel

October 2016

### **Meet New Magistrate Judge Amanda Sansone**



On June 6, 2016, Amanda Arnold Sansone was appointed United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Florida. Judge Sansone is a former shareholder of Carlton Fields, P.A. and a former assistant attorney general for the state of Florida.

Judge Sansone recently sat down with TBC FBA newsletter co-editor Larry Dougherty to discuss her background and path to becoming a magistrate judge.

## Can you please tell us a little about your background growing up?

I grew up in Tampa less than a mile from where I live now. My close proximity to my roots would be a surprise to my high school-age self. I attended Tampa Prep, and, when it came time to apply to colleges, I applied to schools thousands of miles away. I attended Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts. After four Massachusetts winters followed by a New York City winter, I decided that returning to my home state for law school would be a good idea.

## Can you please talk about your education at Amherst and UF?

Amherst was an educational utopia—the classes were small and the professors were accessible. Professors even would invite groups of students to their homes for dinner. During those four years, I was challenged by my peers and my professors to be a critical thinker and a lifelong learner.

University of Florida's law school was another great educational experience for me. I know people complain about law school, but I enjoyed it. Like college, I had a wonderful core group of friends. Plus, returning home to Florida helped me reconnect with childhood friends and develop a greater appreciation for the diverse places and people of Florida. I am often teased about what a cheerleader I am for this state—I credit my experience at UF for cultivating that home state zeal.

#### What drew you to the law?

My father is an attorney (probate and real estate litigation). After college, I worked as a litigation assistant for a year for a law firm in New York, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. I enjoyed the litigation of big cases, the complex problem solving, and the teamwork.

## Please describe the impact of your clerkships with Judge Bucklew and Judge Wilson.

Both of my clerkships had a huge influence on the attorney I was and the judge that I am becoming. I am consciously (and probably unconsciously) emulating certain characteristics of Judge Bucklew and Judge Wilson every day as a magistrate judge. That said, the clerkships—because they were with a district judge and a circuit judge, respectively—were quite different than what I am doing now as a magistrate judge plus were different from one another. In addition to giving me a great sense of the bigger picture of a federal case and a better understanding of the federal courts, I also credit those clerkships with providing me with two incredible mentors.

## What advice would you give to people interested in clerking for a judge?

Do your homework-talk to former clerks, research the judges to try to determine compatibility, and narrow down geographic areas so that you can genuinely communicate why you want to be in a particular courthouse. I decided I wanted to be a federal law clerk when I was a summer associate at The firm took us to the federal Carlton Fields. courthouse for the afternoon, and Judge Bucklew was our host for a tour and presentation on the federal court system. I immediately liked Judge Bucklew's personality. I wrote her a thank-you note after the presentation. Unbeknownst to me, two months later when I applied for a clerkship, she remembered me from my thank-you note. You never know what it is that will separate you from the pack of applicants. If you have any interest in clerking, you should apply even if you are already a few years out of law school actually especially if you are a few years out of law school as many judges prefer a candidate with work experience.

#### You were very active in YLD and became a leader?

I became active in the Young Lawyers Division of the Hillsborough County Bar Association while I was clerking. As a law clerk, you are part of a very small legal community. I wanted to feel like I was part of a larger group of young attorneys so both my father and Judge Bucklew encouraged me to be active in the HCBA YLD.

## Please describe your practice areas at Carlton Fields.

At Carlton Fields, I defended class action cases and other complex commercial cases-mainly in federal court. I also was very involved in firm administration-attorney recruitment, the summer associate program, and associate relations. My first day at Carlton Fields was the day that Hurricane Wilma hit Florida. I didn't know it, but the office was closed that morning. I sat in the dark lobby wondering what I should do. Luckily, Sam Salario [then a Carlton Fields partner, now a 2d DCA judge] suspected that I may be waiting in the lobby and found me. My first week as a magistrate judge was the week Tropical Storm Colin passed through Florida. I take it as a good omen.

#### What advice would you have for a young lawyer?

You need to develop a mentor, one of your own choosing. I have been fortunate to have outstanding mentors guide me along the way. You need to keep your eyes wide open to opportunities and work hard so that you will be prepared to seize the opportunities when they present themselves. You also must develop an intellectual curiosity for what you do—and if you cannot then you need to move on to another area of the law. Obviously, you need to work on good writing. To help do that, read non-law books, newspapers, and anything else that will help you develop good writing without legalese. Most importantly, you need to have a life outside the law or you will get burnt out—it's a stressful profession.

## What led you to work as an assistant attorney general?

Leaving Carlton Fields to become an assistant attorney general was not something I had planned to do, but it turned out to be a wonderful decision professionally and personally. I happened to have lunch with a law school friend who had left the consumer protection division of the attorney general's office in South Florida to go into private practice. I was giving her advice about private practice, but as I listened to her stories about her work for the attorney general, I thought to myself, that sounds so interesting. In 2010, Congress passed the Consumer Financial Protection Act (CFPA), which brought state attorney generals into federal court more. With my federal practice background, I knew that I could contribute those skills to the attorney general's office so the change in practice was not quite so intimidating. Ultimately, the public service aspect of the position was what compelled me to leave my position at Carlton Fields. Apart from clerking and pro bono work, I had done very little public service and I was ready to do more. At the attorney general's office, I civilly prosecuted financial scams in cases brought under the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, the CFPA, the Federal Trade Commission Act, and the telemarketing sales rule. It was a wonderful two years. I highly recommend working in that division to anyone interested in expanding a civil litigation practice.

## Is there any specific advice you would give to someone interested in becoming a judge?

Be prepared for when there is an opportunity to apply. That said, the opportunities can be infrequent and you have very little control over the selection process. Consequently, you need to be involved in activities, organizations, and practice areas because you really enjoy them and not just because they may look good on your résumé.

Do you have any personal interest or hobby you would like to mention for our readers?

Before having children, I was an avid scuba diver. I would like to start diving again at some point soon. Other things I do in my free time are spend time with my children, work out with friends, and jog (I am slow!). Most weekends you can find me at the beach—I am a sixth-generation Floridian so I was born with sand between my toes.

## Has there been anything surprising or difficult about your transition to the bench?

For me, the most difficult part has been getting up to speed on criminal procedure and the criminal side of the docket. I am trying to learn as much as I can as quickly as I can. On the civil side, I have been surprised by the lack of meaningful meet and confer by opposing counsel before filing discovery motions. As a practitioner, I always took the meet and confer obligation very seriously and assumed others did as well. Otherwise, the transition has not been too difficult as every person at the courthouse has anticipated my every need. I have truly had one of the warmest welcomes I have ever received. Not just the courthouse staff, but all the judges have been welcoming, every one.

## Do you have any advice for anyone appearing before you?

Mainly, to be prepared. I will continue to pride myself on being over-prepared. Each time I review a pending motion, my preparation includes looking back through the case docket to see developments in the case before the motion that is being heard. Consequently, even though I am new to the cases, parties should expect that I will be familiar with the history of their cases in addition to the immediate matter pending before me.

## Thank You Renewing Members and Welcome New Members!

Lindsey Askew Clark Jeffrey Bolton Cole Carlson Darnesha Carter Myra Cause John Ernest Clabby Clementine Lucia Conde Jessica Crane Ailen Cruz Patrick Dekle Brook Eisenhut Diana Evans Michael P. Fuino Kristina A. Gandre Robert Glenn Lindsay Sharaine Goheen Octavio "Tav" Gomez Nicole Valdes Hardin Frank Stuart Harrison Katherine Heffner Olivia Hood Ryan Thomas Hopper Melody Jacquay Eric Allen Kauk Leighton Leib Sara R. Lui Ryan Joseph McGee Vanessa Moore Salomon Numa Anisha Patel Diego Pestana Jacqueline M. Prats Alison Preston Kelli A. Ragan Kathryn A. Rand D. Lawrence Rayburn Natalia C. Reyna Elaine M. Rice Taylor Ryan Keith G. Shevenell Ben Stechschulte Scarlett Steighner Kevin Sullivan Debra B. Tuomey

Interested in enhancing your membership experience? Check out www.fedbar.org to learn more about becoming a Sustaining Member

October 2016

### **Recapping Chapter Events**

### **25<sup>th</sup> Annual National Federal Sentencing Seminar**

The Tampa Bay Chapter put on the 25th Annual National Seminar on Federal Sentencing from June 1-3, 2016, at the Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek, in Orlando. The seminar was co-sponsored by the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Criminal Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, and the Criminal Justice Section of the American Bar Association. Speakers from across the country presented on topics such as Federal Sentencing: A View From the Bench; Bureau of Prisons Issues; Departures & Variances; Update on Federal Sentencing Law and Policy; Basic Guidelines Training; Child Pornography and Sex Offenses; Criminal History, Role and Chapter Three Adjustments; Drug Offenses; Firearms Offenses; Fraud/Theft Offenses; Plea Bargaining; and Re-Entry.

We appreciate all of the speakers who presented at the seminar, particularly the judges who took time away from the bench to speak, including the Honorable Mary Scriven (United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida); the Honorable Carlos E. Mendoza (United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida); the Honorable Paul L. Friedman (United States District Court for the District of Columbia), the Honorable Donald M. Middlebrooks (United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida), as well as United States Attorney Lee Bentley and Federal Public Defender Donna Elm. The Chapter also thanks the Seminar's sponsors, Carlton Fields; Centrone & Shrader, PLLC; Cozen O'Connor; Kynes, Markman & Felman, PA; Wiand Guerra King, P.A.; and Zuckerman Spaeder, LLP, whose generous financial support made the seminar possible.

### **Chambers Lunch**

On June 20, 2016, the Chapter hosted the third in its series of Chambers Lunches with U.S. Magistrate Judge Anthony Porcelli. The Chambers Lunch is a small-group, invitation-only lunch intended to facilitate unique and meaningful interaction between judges and members of the Tampa Bay Chapter. During the lunch, Judge Porcelli talked with ten attendees about the matters he handles as a Magistrate Judge and how his Chambers works together to manage a heavy caseload. Judge Porcelli also gave attendees a tour of his Chambers.

In the series, available seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to any member who provided pro bono services through the FBA in calendar year 2015 or 2016. FBA Chapter President Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe handles requests and can be reached at <u>amoe@bushross.com</u>.



Judge Porcelli and Chambers Lunch attendees

### **Federal Practice Seminar**

On July 7, 2016, the Young Lawyer's Division hosted its annual Federal Practice Seminar at the Sam M. Gibbons U.S. Courthouse. In addition to informative presentations by FBA Chapter President Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe, Sara Alpert Lawson, Carter Andersen, and Matthew J. Conigliaro, the Seminar also included a judicial panel featuring U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Catherine Peek McEwen, and U.S. Magistrate Judge Julie S. Sneed. In what the YLD hopes will become an annual tradition, the Seminar was followed by a Happy Hour at Taps that included complimentary refreshments and appetizers.

The YLD expresses its sincere appreciation to the judiciary and local practitioners for the generous donation of their time. The YLD also wishes to thank Joanne Grages Burnett and Traci Koster for their assistance in organizing the Seminar. If you are interested in participating in or assisting with any future YLD events, please contact Jordan D. Maglich at <u>jmaglich@wiandlaw.com</u>.



Sara Alpert Lawson discusses pre-trial procedure



Judicial panel discussion on Federal Practice issues

### **Mentorship Reception**

On May 18, 2016, the FBA kicked off this year's mentorship program with a Happy Hour at Taps in downtown Tampa. The event was well attended with some participants meeting for the first time. To date, there are about 40 participants. The FBA offers this program to its members as a way to continue to bridge and grow relationships between both older more experienced attorneys and younger or newly admitted ones. Lara Fernandez, who currently chairs the program, is always looking for more participants. Throughout the year, the FBA offers seminars and luncheons which are excellent events to attend with your mentor or mentee. Don't hesitate to become involved. Most mentors and mentees meet up for lunch, generally on a quarterly basis, to listen to each other and discuss whatever topics are on their minds. The program is designed to foster open dialogue in a relaxed, collaborative setting. We hope you will join as either a mentor or mentee.

### **Community Outreach Program**

On April 28, 2016, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association hosted twenty-five high school students from the Tampa Bay area in the inaugural implementation of the FBA's National Community Outreach Program. The group, which included students active in legal studies or programs from Middleton High School, Bell Creek Academy, and Durant High School, had the opportunity to interact with judges from the Bankruptcy Court and District Court and observe a Bankruptcy proceeding, a Presentence Report presentation, and a criminal sentencing.

These events were followed by a lunch and Q&A session with local members of the judiciary and criminal law practitioners. The Chapter sincerely thanks U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Michael G. Williamson, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Catherine Peek McEwen, and U.S. Magistrate Judge Anthony Porcelli for their assistance in making this event a great success. Additionally, the Chapter is grateful for the participation of Jeffrey Brown, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kelley Howard-Allen, and U.S. Probation Officer Christine Hatten. Finally, the Chapter extends its appreciation to members Jordan Maglich, Anitra Raiford, Latasha Scott, and Brian Guthrie for coordinating the event.



**Outreach Program Participants** 



Judge Kovachevich addresses the group



Judge Porcelli instructs

### **Young Lawyer's Division Volunteer Event**

On June 29, 2016, the Young Lawyer's Division hosted a volunteer event at A Kid's Place of Tampa Bay with a Summer BBQ theme. The YLD was fortunate to have Sonny's BBQ cater the event as part of their "Random Acts of BBQ" program, and also thanks Custom Corntoss and Tampa Bay Club Sports for providing activities for the children. The YLD also provided the children with various beach-themed toys and activities for future use. The YLD wishes to thank Kimberly Koves for her assistance with organizing the volunteer event. If you are interested in participating in or assisting with any future YLD events, please contact Jordan D. Maglich at <u>imaglich@wiandlaw.com</u>.

### **The New Federal Defend Trade Secrets Act**

#### By Brian T. McElfatrick<sup>1</sup>

Over the past several years, the market value of many corporations can be determined more from the value of their intangible assets than their tangible assets. This shift may largely be attributed to the increasing importance and value of intellectual property, including trade secrets. As the value and importance of intangible assets continues to grow in our economy, so too has the need for adequate measures of protection and recourse for theft and misappropriation of these intangible assets, including trade secrets.

In May 2016, the Defend Trade Secrets Act (the "DTSA") was signed into law. Although most states, including Florida, codified the Uniform Trade Secrets Act (the "UTSA") in some form, the DTSA is the first federal statute to provide litigants with a private cause of action for the theft and misappropriation of trade secrets. Before the DTSA, litigants who wished to pursue statutory claims were limited to the relief afforded under the UTSA. However, these statutory claims could not be heard in federal courts unless litigants could establish diversity jurisdiction or supplemental jurisdiction with a closely related federal claim. The DTSA now provides litigants in trade secret disputes with direct access to federal courts and the advantages they offer, including national service of process and a proceeding governed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Furthermore, the DTSA offers, for the first time, a uniform statute that can now be applied to cases involving the misappropriation of trade secrets. Although uniformity was aspirational with the UTSA, it was not necessarily achieved with states codifying slightly different variations of the statute.

Although the DTSA appears to give litigants direct access to federal courts, federal jurisdiction under the DTSA is bound by the requirements of the Commerce Clause. The DTSA provides that "[a]n owner of a trade secret that is misappropriated may bring a civil action under this subsection if the trade secret is related to a product or service used in, or intended for use in, interstate or foreign commerce." 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(1). It is not inconceivable that a lot of types of information that meet the definition of "trade secret" still might not provide the jurisdictional nexus to satisfy the commerce clause. For example, information about things like customers or processes may not, by definition, be directly related to the goods and services themselves that are used in interstate commerce. As more cases begin to be filed under the DTSA, it should become apparent whether or not litigants aggressively assert jurisdictional defenses.

Practitioners who have litigated cases under the UTSA in Florida will find many similarities between the DTSA and the UTSA.<sup>2</sup> For example, the definition of "misappropriation" under the DTSA and the UTSA is the same. Additionally, a three (3) year statute of limitations period applies to claims under the DTSA and the UTSA.<sup>3</sup> Although the definitions of "trade secrets" under the DTSA and the UTSA are very similar, they are not identical. The list of the types of information that constitute trade secrets is more expansive under the DTSA than it is under the UTSA. The DTSA defines a trade secret as "all forms and types of financial business, scientific, technical, economic or engineering information, including patterns, plans, compilations, program devices, formulas, designs, prototypes, methods, techniques, processes, procedures, programs, or codes, whether tangible or intangible, and whether or how stored, compiled, or memorialized physically, electronically, graphically, photographically, or in writing. . . ." 18 U.S.C. § 1839(3). Under Florida's codification of the UTSA, trade secrets are more narrowly defined as "information. including а formula. pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process . . . ." Fla. Stat. § 688.002(4).

Despite the number of similarities between the DTSA and the UTSA, there are some significant differences too. Perhaps the most notable difference relates to one of the remedies available to litigants under the DTSA. Unlike the UTSA, the DTSA offers litigants the opportunity to seek *ex parte* civil seizure as a remedy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Brian T. McElfatrick is a shareholder in the commercial litigation group of Bush Ross, P.A.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Fla. Stat. § 688.001 et seq. represents Florida's codification of the UTSA.

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  The three (3) year limitations period in the DTSA and Florida's codification of the UTSA can be found at 18 U.S.C § 1836(d) and Fla. Stat. § 688.007, respectively.

to prevent the propagation or dissemination of the trade secret. Specifically, the DTSA provides that a court may "issue an order providing for the seizure of property necessary to prevent the propagation or dissemination of the trade secret that is the subject of the action." 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(2)(A)(i). Civil seizure is not a remedy that is available in every instance. Rather, the DTSA specifically provides that civil seizure is only available in "extraordinary circumstances." *Id.* 

A litigant who pursues the remedy of *ex parte* seizure of a misappropriated trade secret must be able to successfully establish several elements. Some of these elements include the following: (1) that the issuance of a Rule 65 injunction would be inadequate relief to the moving party; (2) the moving party would suffer an immediate and irreparable injury without the seizure; and (3) the party against whom the relief is sought would destroy, move, hide or otherwise make such matter inaccessible if the applicant were to proceed on notice. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(2)(A)(ii)(I)-(VIII).

Another material difference between the DTSA and the UTSA is that the DTSA established immunity for "whistleblowers." Individuals cannot be criminally or civilly liable for the disclosure of a trade secret that "(A) is made: (i) in confidence to a Federal, State, or local government official, either directly or indirectly, or to an attorney; and (ii) solely for the purpose of reporting or investigating a suspected violation of law; or (B) is made in a complaint or other document filed in a lawsuit or other proceeding, if such filing is made under seal." 18 U.S.C. § 1833(b)(1). Although the UTSA does not contain an immunity provision, the

immunity afforded under the DTSA appears to be broad enough to provide immunity from civil or criminal liability under *any* federal or *state* trade secret law.

The immunity provision of the DTSA now places employers under a specific obligation to notify employees, which is broadly defined to include individuals who perform work as a contractor or consultant. of the rights to immunity for whistleblowers. Specifically, employers are required to "provide notice of the immunity . . . in any contract or agreement with an employee that governs the use of a trade secret or other confidential information." 18 U.S.C. § 1833(b)(3)(A). An employer who does not satisfy the requirement for providing notice to its employees as specified in the DTSA may not be awarded exemplary damages or attorney's fees in an action against an employee to whom notice was not given. 18 U.S.C. § 1833(b)(3)(C).

At this point, there is a complete absence of federal jurisprudence to help practitioners and litigants understand how courts may interpret and apply the DTSA. It is not inconceivable that courts may follow the existing jurisprudence relating to the UTSA, although courts would not be under any obligation to do so. Regardless, over the next few years, courts will clarify and resolve any uncertainty that may presently exist over how certain aspects of the DTSA will be interpreted and applied. Given the ever-increasing importance of trade secrets to our economy, litigants are likely to take advantage of the additional protections that the DTSA appears to offer.

### **Newsletter Editors**

Larry Dougherty

Bryan D. Hull

Questions? Comments? Ideas? If you would like to submit an article or have a suggestion for future newsletter content, please contact Bryan at bhull@bushross.com or Larry at ldougherty@foley.com.



United States Bankruptcy Court Middle District of Florida Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse 801 North Florida Avenue Tampa, Florida 33602

#### MEMORANDUM

From:	Hon. Caryl E. Delano Judicial Liaison to Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee
То:	Interested Parties
Subject:	Amendments to Local Rules
Date:	June 10, 2016

The Bankruptcy Judges of the Middle District of Florida have approved the following new and amended Local Rules, effective July 1, 2016. A brief summary of the revisions is set forth below. However, the new and amended Local Rules should be reviewed in their entirety.

#### L.R. 1001-1 Scope of Rules; Short Title

Amendment includes a revision to section (b) that is consistent with the 2015 amendment to Fed. R. Civ. P. 1 and new section (c), which incorporates the provisions regarding sanctions for failure to comply with the Local Rules set forth in abrogated Local Rule 9011-3 Sanctions.

L.R. 1001-2 Case Management and Electronic Case Filing System – CM/ECF Amendment incorporates the provisions regarding the signature of papers filed via CM/ECF set forth in abrogated Local Rule 9011-4 Signatures. The amendment also cross-references Local Rule 5005-4 Sealed Papers.

#### L.R. 2004-1 Examination of Debtor and Others Amendment clarifies that parties shall schedule examinations under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2004 by notice rather than by motion.

#### L.R. 2090-1 Attorneys – Admission to Practice

Amendment clarifies the procedure to be followed by attorneys who wish to appear before the Court but who are not admitted to practice in the Middle District of Florida. The amendment also instructs counsel that the District Court requires a filing fee to be paid for special admission to practice.

#### L.R. 2090-2 Attorneys – Discipline

Amendment clarifies the procedures to be used when an attorney admitted to practice before the Court, either generally or specially, is disbarred or suspended from practice by the Supreme Court of Florida or another court.

#### L.R. 2091-1 Attorneys – Duties of Debtor's Counsel

Amendment renumbers the rule from 9011-1 to 2091-1 and revises the title of the rule to indicate that the rule applies to debtors' counsel.

#### L.R. 2091-2 Attorneys – Withdrawals and Substitutions

Amendment renumbers the rule from 2091-1 to 2091-2 and clarifies that motions for leave to withdraw shall be filed using the negative notice procedures of Local Rule 2004-2.

#### L.R. 3002-1 Time for Filing Proofs of Claim in Reinstated Cases

Amendment extends the deadlines for filing proofs of claim in reinstated cases from 28 to 60 days and is now applicable to cases filed under all chapters.

#### L.R. 3020-1 Chapter 11 – Confirmation

Amendment requires orders confirming plans in Chapter 11 cases to include a summary of the timing and amount of payments to be made to each class of creditors under the plan. The amendment also changes the deadline from 30 days to 60 days for filing any adversary proceeding or contested matter contemplated by the Chapter 11 plan and any objection to claim.

L.R. 5005-4 Sealed Papers

Amendment conforms the rule to current practice as set forth in the Procedure for Filing Papers under Seal adopted by the Court on June 11, 2015.

## L.R. 5073-1 Photographs; Broadcasting or Televising; Use of Computers and Communication Devices

Amendment brings the rule current with Court practices.

#### L.R. 7001-1 Adversary Proceedings – Procedures

New rule incorporating the provisions of archived Administrative Order FLMB-2014-1 "Administrative Order Prescribing Procedures for Adversary Proceedings." In addition, section (f)(4) regarding pretrial disclosures is now consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f). The rule also clarifies the requirement that motions in adversary proceedings be filed and served using the negative notice procedures of Local Rule 2002-4.

#### L.R. 7026-1 Discovery – General

General.

This amendment refers parties, in section (a), to Local Rule 7001-1 Adversary Proceedings – Procedures for issues relating to discovery. The amendment also clarifies that, absent order of the Court otherwise, the conference and reporting requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 do not apply to contested matters. Former section (c) regarding the depositions of nonresident parties has migrated to Rule 7030-1 Depositions upon Oral Examination.

#### L.R. 7030-1 Depositions upon Oral Examination

Section (b) of this amendment incorporates former section (c) of Local Rule 7026-1 Discovery – General regarding the location of depositions of non-resident parties. The definition of "non-resident" has been changed from "a person residing outside the State of Florida" to "a person residing outside the Middle District of Florida."

In addition, a number of Local Rules will be abrogated effective July 1, 2016, as they have been superseded by current CM/ECF practice or incorporated by newly promulgated or amended rules. Those rules are as follows:

L.R. 7054-1	<b>Costs – Taxation/Payment; Attorney's Fees</b> Duplicative of Fed. R. Civ. P. 54 and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7054.
L.R. 7067-1	<b>Registry Fund</b> Duplicative of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7067 and 28 U.S.C. § 2042.
L.R. 9011-3	Sanctions Migrated to Local Rule 1001-1 Scope of Rules; Short Title.
L.R. 9011-4	<b>Signatures</b> Migrated to Local Rule 1001-2 Case Management and Electronic Case Filing System CM/ECF.
L.R. 9014-2	General Provisions Regarding Discovery – Contested Matters Certain provisions incorporated into Local Rule 7026-1 Discovery

The Bankruptcy Judges would like to thank the members of the Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee for their assistance. The members are Donald Kirk, Esq., Chair, Gregory Champeau, Esq., Betsy Cox, Esq., Lara Fernandez, Esq., Raymond Waguespack, and Richard Webber, Esq.

CED/ls

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION

In Re: Middle District of Florida Bar Attorney Renewal Fee Structure

CASE NO. 8:16-mc-90-T-23

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

Rule 2.01(d), Local Rules of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, and the "Eighth Amended and Restated Guidelines and Plan for Administration of Non-Appropriated Funds of the Middle District of Florida" require an attorney admitted as a member of the Bar of this court to pay a membership renewal fee every three years. However, the Board of Judges voted unanimously to suspend the fee until June 1, 2020. Effective June 1, 2020, a member of the Bar of this court must pay a membership fee of \$15.00 every five years.

ORDERED in Tampa, Florida, on July 204, 2016.

STEVEN D. MERRYDAY CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE



United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse 801 North Florida Avenue, Room 14B Tampa, Florida 33602

Virginia M. Hernandez Covington United States District Judge (813) 301-5340 Office (813) 301-5630 Fax

January 14, 2016

Dear Counsel:

This letter is to advise you that certain policies and procedures for civil and criminal cases have been updated. The updates are explained thoroughly on the Court's website at: <u>http://www.flmd.uscourts.gov/judicialInfo/Tampa/JgCovington.htm</u>. Counsel is expected to review the website promptly and carefully. The undersigned takes this opportunity to highlight three principal changes:

#### 1. Motion for Summary Judgment Statement of Material Facts –

Each motion for summary judgment must include a specifically captioned section titled, "Statement of Material Facts." The statement of material facts must list each material fact alleged not to be disputed in separate, numbered paragraphs. Each fact must be supported by a <u>pinpoint</u> citation to the specific part of the record relied upon to support that fact. The record includes depositions, electronically stored information, affidavits or declarations, stipulations, admissions, and interrogatory answers; however, it does not include attorneys' affidavits. When preparing the statement of material facts, the moving party must reference only the facts necessary for the Court to determine the issues presented in the motion. Legal argument should not be included. <u>Failure to submit a statement of material facts constitutes grounds for denying the motion</u>.

Each response in opposition to a motion for summary judgment must include a specifically captioned section titled, "Response to Statement of Material Facts." The opposing party's response must mirror the statement of material facts by admitting and/or denying each of the moving party's assertions in matching numbered paragraphs. Each denial must set forth a <u>pinpoint</u> citation to the record where the fact is disputed. Although the opposing party's response must correspond with the paragraph scheme used in the statement of material facts, the response need not repeat the text of the moving party's paragraphs. In deciding a motion for summary judgment, <u>the Court will deem admitted any</u>

fact in the statement of material facts that the opposing party does not specifically controvert, provided the moving party's statement is supported by evidence in the record. Additional facts that the party opposing summary judgment contends are material shall be numbered and placed at the end of the opposing party's response and include a <u>pinpoint</u> citation to the record where the fact is established.

When resolving a motion for summary judgment, the Court has no duty to search and consider any part of the record not otherwise referenced and <u>pinpoint</u> cited to in the statement of material facts and response thereto. <u>See</u> Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c)(3) ("The court need consider only the cited materials, but it may consider other materials in the record.").

#### 2. Electronic Exhibit Binder –

Counsel for each party must provide the undersigned with an <u>electronic</u> exhibit binder that contains all individual exhibits and joint exhibits that each party intends to introduce. Each exhibit must be saved as a PDF document and then combined with the other exhibits into a single PDF file. Within the single PDF file, counsel must identify each exhibit separately using PDF bookmarks. The electronic exhibit binder must be emailed to the Chambers' inbox at: Chambers\_FLMD\_Covington@flmd.uscourts.gov. Include the case number and case name in the email subject line. If the file containing the electronic exhibit binder is too large to email, counsel should provide the Court with a single CD or DVD of the binder.

#### 3. Civil Case Management and Scheduling –

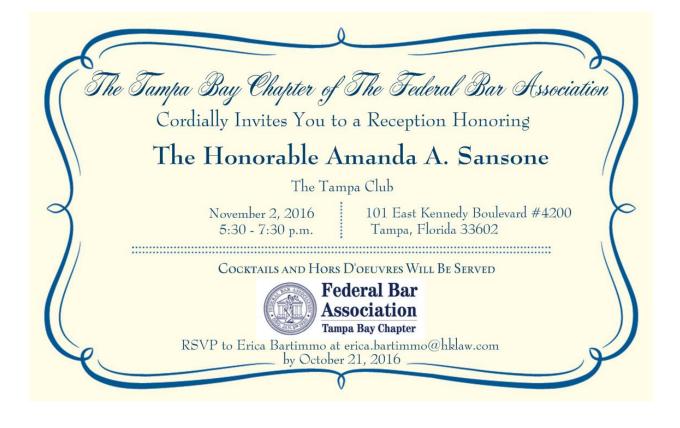
In an effort to effectuate the spirit and purpose of the Amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that became effective on December 1, 2015, the Court actively manages and oversees its assigned cases to keep focus on the matters truly in dispute, alleviate unnecessary costs and delays, and facilitate speedy and just resolution of cases. As part of that process, the Court requires parties to submit a Case Management Report prior to a Case Management Hearing per Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Please note that the undersigned utilizes three different Case Management Reports designed to fit the needs of particular types of cases; Counsel and <u>pro se</u> parties should familiarize themselves with these forms. Further, please be advised that the undersigned's Case Management Report Forms are different from those used by other judges.

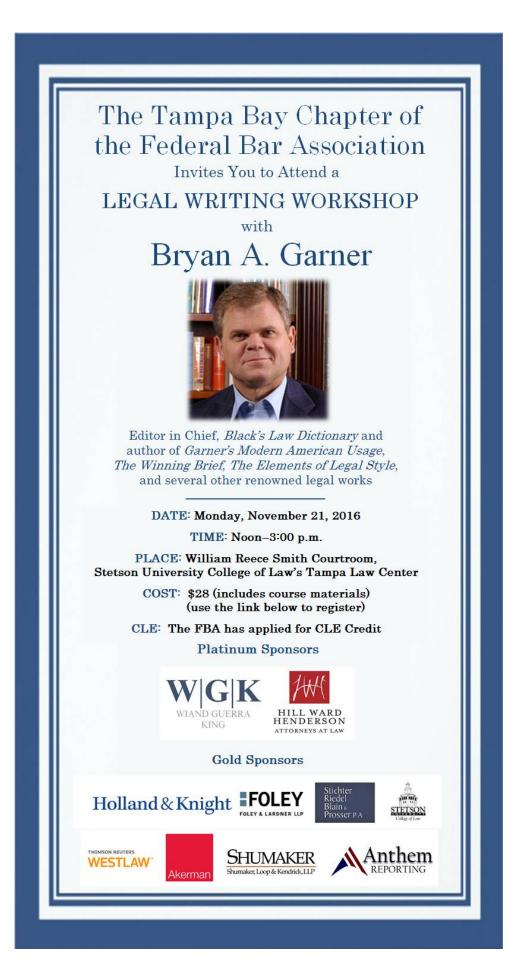
The undersigned requires your close attention to and strict compliance with all policies and procedures. Thank you.

Sincerely,

n'm. Hunnel

VIRŒINIA M. HERNANDEZ COVINGŤON UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE





Registration: http://www.federalbartampa.org/event/legal-writing-seminar/

## **Federal Bar Association Application for Membership**

The Federal Bar Association offers an unmatched array of opportunities and services to enhance your connections to the judiciary, the legal profession, and your peers within the legal community. Our mission is to strengthen the federal legal system and administration of justice by serving the interests and the needs of the federal practitioner, both public and private, the federal judiciary, and the public they serve.

#### Advocacy

The opportunity to make a change Connect with a network of federal and improve the federal legal system practitioners extending across all 50 through grassroots work in over 90 FBA chapters and a strong national advocacy.

#### Networking

states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

#### Leadership

Governance positions within the association help shape the FBA's future and make an impact on the growth of the federal legal community.

#### Learning

Explore best practices and new ideas at the many Continuing Legal Education programs offered throughout the year-at both the national and chapter levels.

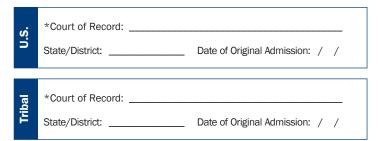
### Expand your connections, advance your career

THREE WAYS TO APPLY TODAY: Join online at www.fedbar.org; Fax application to (571) 481-9090; or Mail application to FBA, PO Box 79395, Baltimore, MD 21279-0395. For more information, contact the FBA membership department at (571) 481-9100 or membership@fedbar.org.

#### **Applicant Information**

First Name	M.I.	Last Name	Suffix (e.g. Jr	.) Ti	tle (e.g. Attorney At Law, Partner, Ass	sistant U.S. Attorney)
O Male O Female	Have you bee	n an FBA member in the past? ${ m O}$ ye	es O no	Which do y	ou prefer as your primary address? C	business O home
Firm/Company/Agency		Number of Attorneys	Address			Apt. #
Address		Suite/Floor	City		State Zip	Country
City ( )	State	Zip Country	Phone		Date of Birth	
Phone	Email Addres	SS	Email Ad	dress		

#### **Bar Admission and Law School Information (required)**



ign	*Court/Tribunal of Record:	
Foreign	Country:	_ Date of Original Admission: / /
ıts	Law School:	
Students	State/District:	Date of Expected Graduation: / /

\*Court of Record: Name of first court in which you were admitted to practice.

#### **Authorization Statement**

By signing this application, I hereby apply for membership in the Federal Bar Association and agree to conform to its Constitution and Bylaws and to the rules and regulations prescribed by its Board of Directors. I declare that the information contained herein is true and complete. I understand that any false statements made on this application will lead to rejection of my application or the immediate termination of my membership. I also understand that by providing my fax number and email address, I hereby consent to receive faxes and email messages sent by or on behalf of the Federal Bar Association, the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association, and the Federal Bar Building Corporation.



#### Date (Signature must be included for membership to be activated)

\*\*Contributions and dues to the FBA may be deductible by members under provisions of the IRS Code, such as an ordinary and necessary business expense, except 4.5 percent which is used for congressional lobbying and is not deductible. Your FBA dues include \$15 for a yearly subscription to the FBA's professional magazine.



**Federal Bar** Association

#### Application continued on the back

#### **Membership Levels**

#### Sustaining Membership

Members of the association distinguish themselves when becoming sustaining members of the FBA. Sixty dollars of the sustaining dues are used to support educational programs and publications of the FBA. Sustaining members receive a 5 percent discount on the registration fees for all national meetings and national CLE events.

	Private Sector	Public Sector
Member Admitted to Practice 0-5 Years	O \$165	O \$145
Member Admitted to Practice 6-10 Years	O \$230	O \$205
Member Admitted to Practice 11+ Years	O \$275	O \$235
Retired (Fully Retired from the Practice of Law)	O \$165	O \$165

#### **Active Membership**

Open to any person admitted to the practice of law before a federal court or a court of record in any of the several states, commonwealths, territories, or possessions of the United States or in the District of Columbia.

	Private Sector	Public Sector
Member Admitted to Practice 0-5 Years	O \$105	O \$80
Member Admitted to Practice 6-10 Years	O \$165	O \$140
Member Admitted to Practice 11+ Years	O \$210	O \$170
Retired (Fully Retired from the Practice of Law)	O \$105	O \$105

#### **Associate Membership**

#### **Foreign Associate**

#### Law Student Associate

First year student (includes four years of membership) $O$ \$50
Second year student (includes three years of membership) $O$ \$30
Third year student (includes two years of membership) $O$ \$20
One year only option O \$20

All first, second and third year student memberships include an additional free year of membership starting from your date of graduation.

#### **Practice Area Sections**

O Admiralty Law\$25
O Alternative Dispute Resolution\$15
O Antitrust and Trade Regulation\$15
O Banking Law\$20
O Bankruptcy Law\$25
O Civil Rights Law\$10
O Criminal Law\$10
O Environment, Energy, and
Natural Resources\$15
O Federal Litigation\$20
O Government Contracts\$20
O Health Law\$15
O Immigration Law\$10
O Indian Law\$15

Dues	Total:	
2400		

0	Intellectual Property Law	\$10
0	International Law	\$10
0	Labor and Employment Law	\$15
0	LGBT Law	\$15
0	Qui Tam Section	\$15
0	Securities Law Section	\$0
0	Social Security	\$10
0	State and Local Government	
	Relations	\$15
0	Taxation	\$15
0	Transportation and	
	Transportation Security Law	\$20
0	Veterans and Military Law	\$20
	2	

#### **Career Divisions**

$\odot$ Corporate & Association Counsel (in-house counsel and/or	
corporate law practice)	\$20
O Federal Career Service (past/present employee of federal government)	N/C
O Judiciary (past/present member or staff of a judiciary)	N/C
O Senior Lawyers* (age 55 or over)	\$10
O Younger Lawyers* (age 40 or younger or admitted less than 10 years)	N/C
O Law Student Division	N/C
*For aligibility data of hirth must be provided	

or eligibility, date of birth must be provided.

Sections and Divisions Total:

#### **Chapter Affiliation**

Illinois

Your FBA membership entitles you to a chapter membership. Local chapter dues are indicated next to the chapter name (if applicable). If no chapter is selected, you will be assigned a chapter based on geographic location. \*No chapter currently located in this state or location.

<u>Alabama</u>
O Birmingham
O Montgomery
O North Alabama
<u>Alaska</u>
O Alaska
Arizona
O Phoenix
O William D.
Browning/
Tucson-\$10
Arkansas
O Arkansas
California
O Inland Empire
O Los Angeles
O Northern
District of
California
O Orange County
O Sacramento
O San Diego
O San Joaquin
Valley
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O Colorado
<u>Connecticut</u>
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Connecticut <u>Delaware</u> O Delaware <u>District of Columbia</u> O Capitol Hill
Connecticut <u>Delaware</u> O Delaware <u>District of Columbia</u> O Capitol Hill O D.C.
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O Central District of Illinois-\$25 O Chicago O P. Michael Mahonev Chapter O Southern District of Illinois Indiana O Indianapolis O Northern District of Indiana Iowa O lowa-\$10 Kansas O Kansas and Western District of Missouri Kentucky O Kentucky Louisiana O Baton Rouge O Lafayette/ Acadiana O New Orleans-\$10 O North Louisiana Maine O Maine Maryland O Marvland Massachusetts O Massachusetts -\$10 **Michigan** O Eastern District of Michigan O Western District of Michigan Minnesota O Minnesota Mississippi O Mississippi <u>Missouri</u> O St. Louis O Kansas and Western District of Missouri <u>Montana</u> O Montana **Nebraska** O Nebraska Nevada O Nevada

New Hampshire O New Hampshire-\$10 New Jersey O New Jersey New Mexico (Rockford, Illinois) O New Mexico New York O Eastern District of New York O Southern District of New York O Western District of New York North Carolina O Eastern District of North Carolina O Middle District of North Carolina O Western District of North Carolina North Dakota O North Dakota <u>Ohio</u> O Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky-John W. Peck O Columbus O Davton O Northern District of Ohio-\$10 Oklahoma O Oklahoma City O Northern/ Eastern Oklahoma Oregon O Oregon Pennsylvania O Eastern District of Pennsylvania O Middle District of Pennsvlvania O Western District of Pennsvlvania Puerto Rico O Hon. Raymond L Acosta/ Puerto Rico-\$10

Rhode Island O Rhode Island South Carolina O South Carolina South Dakota O South Dakota Tennessee O Chattanooga O Knoxville Chapter O Memphis Mid-South O Nashville O Northeast Tennessee Texas O Austin O Dallas-\$10 O El Paso O Fort Worth O San Antonio O Southern District of Texas-\$25 O Waco Utah O Utah Vermont\* O At Large Virgin Islands O Virgin Islands Virginia O Northern Virginia O Richmond O Roanoke O Hampton Roads Chapter Washington\* O At Large West Virginia O Northern District of West Virginia-\$20 <u>Wisconsin</u> O Wisconsin Wyoming O Wyoming

### **Payment Information**

#### TOTAL DUES TO BE CHARGED

(membership, section/division, and chapter dues): \$

O Check enclosed, payable to Federal Bar Association Credit: O American Express O MasterCard O Visa

Name on card (please print)

Card No.

O Idaho

Exp. Date

Signature

**Chapter Total:**