



Federal Bar Association

Tampa Bay Chapter

News and Updates | October 2023

Tampa Bay Chapter is Honored at Annual FBA Convention

The Tampa Bay Chapter was well represented at this year's FBA Annual Convention held in Memphis, Tennessee, from September 21-23, 2023. Michelle Moretz-Smith, Communications Chair and Law Clerk Committee Co-Chair, attended the Convention. The Convention featured timely and compelling programming, an opportunity to interact with representatives from the National organization, and of course the opportunity to explore the sights and history of Memphis.

The Tampa Bay Chapter was honored at the National Council Meeting on the final day of the Convention, taking home a Meritorious Newsletter Award and a Presidential Excellence Award. These awards were accepted on behalf of the entire organization, including our hard-working Board and Committees, and will be proudly displayed in the Attorney Lounge in the Sam M. Gibbons Courthouse (available to all FBA members). Next year's Annual Convention will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, so mark your calendars!



Upcoming Events

November 2 – Fifteenth Annual Civil Seminar

November 7 - Chambers Lunch with Judge Badalamenti

November 9 - Coffee at the Courthouse

December 14 - Annual Luncheon

January 31 - Advanced Mediation & Settlement Strategies for Handling the Toughest Situations

Check out our weekly newsletter for more details!

Chapter Hosts "Perspectives from In House Counsel" Luncheon

On Thursday October 5, 2023, the Chapter hosted "Perspectives from In-House Counsel" Luncheon. Our panelists included Alicia Dietzen, General Counsel of KnowBe4, Inc.; Rania Shehata, Vice President, Americas General Counsel at TD SYNEX; Jordan Maglich, Senior Assistant General Counsel for Litigation at Raymond James Financial; and Valeria Obi, Corporate Counsel for Coca Cola Florida.

The panelists provided incredible insight as to their day-to-day responsibilities as in-house counsel, experiences with working with outside counsel, and practical tips on business development. Attendees asked questions and received the unique opportunity to engage with this esteemed group of panelists before and after the lunch. Thank you to the Board for their support of this program and to the panelists for a wonderful presentation!

Call for Announcements

The TBCFBA welcomes its members to share



announcements and photographs of personal milestones, e.g. birth or wedding announcements, in its monthly newsletter. Anyone interested in sharing personal milestones should email [Erik Johanson](#).



Criminal Law Committee Presents Panel on Recent Supreme Court Decisions



On September 27, the Criminal Law Committee held its annual panel on the latest decisions from the Supreme Court. This year's panel focused on decisions involving white-collar crime and the False Claims Act. The panel provided an engaging discussion from moderator Judge Porcelli and panelists Professor Ellen Podgor, Sara Alpert Lawson, and Natalie Hirt Adams. The Committee thanks the moderator, panelists, and attendees for their participation!

Law Clerk Committee Hosts Discussion on "AI in the Law"

On Wednesday September 20, 2023, the Law Clerk Committee hosted its first Lunch and Learn. Judge Anthony Porcelli and Betty Miranda presented on "The Expanding and Changing Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Law." Former and current law clerks learned how broad AI is, the role of algorithms in AI, and how AI is being used in the legal world. Judge Porcelli and Betty developed an interactive presentation where they asked the attendees on how AI impacts scenarios that could start to emerge in the courts. Thank you to Judge Porcelli and Betty for a wonderful presentation!



Chapter Hosts Panel Discussion on Intellectual Property Cases



On September 12, 2023, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the FBA put on a panel at the Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse about litigating intellectual property cases in the Middle District of Florida. Panelists included the Honorable Charlene Honeywell, the Honorable William Jung, and Jim Matulis from Matulis Mediation, and it was moderated by Mindi Richter from Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP.

For questions or to submit announcements or other content, please contact [Erik Johanson](#).

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