

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **TAKING THE STEP TO FEDERAL COURT**  
January 21, 2012
- **STATE OF THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT**  
April 5, 2012
- **FBA ANNUAL MEETING AND NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
September 20-22, 2012
- **ANNUAL SUPREME COURT REVIEW**  
September 27, 2012

## FBA - LA OFFICERS

### President

Jeffrey Rutherford  
Crowell & Moring LLP

### President-Elect

Evan Jenness  
Evan A. Jenness  
Attorney at Law

### Treasurer

Sharon Ben-Shahar  
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[www.fbala.org](http://www.fbala.org)

## The Convention Report: LA Chapter Honored at National Meeting

by Les Horowitz, Past Chapter President

The Federal Bar Association held its Annual Meeting and Convention in Chicago from September 8 through September 10, 2011, and I was privileged to attend as the delegate from the Los Angeles Chapter. Lawyers from all over the country attended. The convention consisted of the meeting of the National Council, the swearing in of the new President, CLE, and social events.

The new President, Fern Bomchill, was sworn in for a one year term. Fern is a partner with the law firm of Mayer Brown, LLC. The President-elect is Robert J. DeSousa who is the State Director for U.S. Senator Pat Toomey, and the Treasurer is the Honorable Gustavo A. Gelpi, Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

The National Council is the governing body of the FBA. It consists of the elective officers; all members of the Board of Directors; all Past National Presidents who are in good standing;

Chairpersons of all Divisions, Sections, and Standing Committees; the President of the Federal Bar Building Corporation; the President of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association; the General Counsel of the Federal Bar Association; either the President of each Chapter or other Chapter officer as designated in writing by the Chapter President to the Board of Directors; one other delegate from each Chapter to be selected by the Chapter; and not more than 20 members to be appointed annually by the President.

During the National Council meeting, President Ashley Belleau of New Orleans, Louisiana reported on her term in office, and the activities of the FBA during her term. She visited over 20 chapters throughout the United States, including Los Angeles. Ashley spent much of her time regarding the governance of the FBA, but spent a great deal of time working on such issues as judicial vacancies and judicial salaries.

Larry Westberg of Boise, Idaho, is the chairman of the Government Relations Committee. Larry reported on the GRC's activities for the last year. The GRC advocates for issues on Capitol Hill and monitors issues and legislation that affect the administration of justice which includes, among other things, issues related to judicial vacancies, judicial salaries, cameras in the courtroom, courthouse safety, compensation for federal attorneys, and social security disability appeals backlog.

In March, 2011, at the Mid-year National Council Meeting, the National Council approved amendments to the FBA Constitution which were subsequently approved by vote of the membership in July. During the National Council meeting this September, the members approved amendments to the FBA by-laws to be in conformity with the FBA Constitution. Among the various changes, the method regarding notice for changes in the dues

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(l. to r.) Kathleen P. March and past chapter president Lorraine L. Loder at the 8th Annual Bankruptcy Ethics Symposium.



(l. to r.) Honorable Scott C. Clarkson and Honorable Catherine E. Bauer, United States Bankruptcy Judges, spoke on "Attorney Ethics in the Courtroom: A Judicial Perspective at the 8th Annual Bankruptcy Ethics Symposium.



Authors Michelle M. Hugard (l.) and Jeffrey R. Cozad (r.) present to the Honorable Vincent P. Zurzolo, United States Bankruptcy Judge, a framed edition of Judge Zurzolo's profile that was published in the Federal Lawyer magazine.



(l. to r.) Tracy Theodore, Donna M. Curtis, and Dare Law at the 8th Annual Bankruptcy Ethics Symposium.



UC Irvine Law School Dean Erwin Chemerinsky was the main speaker at the Annual Supreme Court Review.



(l. to r.) Judge Barry Russell Scholarship award recipient Jesse Terrell with Dean Jane Powell of Southwestern University Law School. A list of scholarship recipients is on page 3.



Honorable Barry Russell, United States Bankruptcy Judge (r.) presented the Annual Judge Barry Russell Scholarship award to John Toton of Loyola Law School.

# Convention Report

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structure was adopted to give the membership more time to respond and approve.

A motion was brought and approved by the members creating a Law Student Division.

The Treasurers' report was presented and approved. The budget for the 2011-2012 was presented and approved. Various reports were presented by Jonathan Hafen of Salt Lake City, Utah who is the Chair of the Membership Committee; Dennis Clark of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who is the President of the Foundation of the Federal Bar and Alan Harnisch of Detroit, Michigan, who is the President of the Building Corporation and the ABA Delegate, gave reports.

I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Bar Association Building Corporation. Many years ago a member of the FBA, Earl

Kitner, donated a building on "H" Street in the District of Columbia for the use of the FBA. It was owned and operated by the Building Corporation which leases space to the FBA. Over the years, the Building Corporation sold the original building, bought a building on "M" Street and sold that building. Currently, the Building Corporation owns an office condominium in Arlington, Virginia.

On behalf of the Los Angeles Chapter, I accepted the Presidential Achievement Award.

Finally, a presentation was made by the committee responsible for the next Annual Meeting in San Diego. Afterwards, the San Diego Chapter delegates made a point of requesting that the Los Angeles Chapter, both the Board and non-board members attend this event on September 20-22, 2012. This is a very good way of meeting fellow FBA members from all over the country and to support our fellow members in the San Diego Chapter.



(l. to r.) Past chapter president the Honorable Yolanda Orozco, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge; chapter president Jeffrey Rutherford; and chapter president-elect Evan A. Jenness at the Annual Supreme Court Review.

## 2012 FBA National Convention

San Diego:  
Manchester Grand Hyatt

September 20-22

**Judge Barry Russell Award**  
*for outstanding achievement  
Federal Courts and Practice*

**John Bickford**  
Pepperdine University School of Law

**Lauren Wright**  
University of Southern California  
School of Law

**Robert Arnay**  
U.C.L.A. School of Law

**Jesse Terrell**  
Southwestern University School of  
Law

**John Toton**  
Loyola Law School

## FBA-LA Mentorship Program

The Federal Bar Association is pleased to invite its members to participate in unique mentorship circles. The mentoring circles are small and informal groups composed of lawyers, judges and others from a variety of federal practice areas and experience levels. Participants are matched based on their areas of interest, type of practice and other criteria and

enjoy the opportunity to meet multiple people in similar practice areas.

If you are a law student or in legal practice for fewer than 5 years, you are welcome to apply as a mentee. This program will offer you a unique opportunity to interact with more senior lawyers and judges in the group and to benefit from their

wisdom and advice. It will be a wonderful tool for your career development. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, you will benefit from the opportunity to participate in an important and rewarding activity.

Visit the FBA-LA website at **[www.fbala.org](http://www.fbala.org)** for more details.

*You must be a current member of the FBA to participate in this program.*

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# About Us

**“The premiere bar association serving  
the federal practitioner and judiciary.”**

### **Federal Bar Association Mission Statement**

The mission of the Association 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.

### **The Federal Bar Association**

The FBA represents the Federal legal profession. We consist of more than 15,000 federal lawyers, including 1,200 federal judges, who work together to promote the sound administration of justice and integrity, quality and independence of the judiciary. The FBA also provides opportunities for scholarship and for judges and lawyers to professionally and socially interact.

### **The Los Angeles Chapter**

The Los Angeles Chapter is one of the oldest chapters of the FBA. Originally chartered in 1937, the Los Angeles Chapter covers the Los Angeles Division of the Central District of California.

With more than 450 members, the Los Angeles Chapter is the largest in the Ninth Circuit. Members come from private practice, government agencies, military branches, law schools and the bench.

The Los Angeles Chapter is committed to meeting the needs of the federal practitioner through educational seminars, training programs and social functions among the federal bar.