



Federal Bar Association

Community Outreach Report

Community Outreach Committee

A Committee of the Vice Presidents for the Circuits

Sheri H. Mecklenburg, Chair (7th Circuit Vice President)

Andrew Clark (4th Circuit Vice President)

Hon. Karoline Mehalchick (3rd Circuit Vice President)

Joseph Leventhal (9th Circuit Vice President)

Chris Stephens (10th Circuit Vice President)

August 14, 2015

FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY OUTREACH REPORT

FBA 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.*” (Emphasis added).

THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE: HISTORY AND PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

In September 2014, as part of its mission to serve the public, the FBA appointed a Community Outreach Committee (“COC”) to further develop programming and other avenues of community outreach throughout the FBA. The COC consists of five Circuit Vice-Presidents, named on the title page of this Report.

The COC adopted a Mission Statement, set forth below. The COC then began its mission by examining the community outreach programming currently conducted in the FBA. As you can see from the FBA Mission Statement quoted above, service to the public is part of the foundation of the FBA. Community outreach programming has been an integral part of the FBA, but has been conducted on an *ad hoc* basis; the COC hopes to make it an institutionalized part of all FBA Chapter and Section programming. The COC is encouraged by what we found, namely that the FBA members regularly engage in community outreach programming. At the end of this report, the COC makes additional recommendations to further develop and institutionalize community outreach programming throughout the FBA, and the COC will continue to pursue those goals as a committee.

The purpose of this report is to: (1) provide a centralized resource about community outreach programming throughout the FBA; (2) describe various community outreach programs for Chapters and Sections to consider for their own programming; (3) identify sources of information on community outreach programs, specifically the Chapters that have conducted certain programs and can offer guidance on such programs; (4) identify sources of potential funding for community outreach programs; and (5) provide inspiration to Chapters, Divisions and Members to develop community

outreach programs. We describe in this report the community outreach programming implemented by Chapters around the nation, and include in the Appendix documents provided to us that were used to implement the programming. A Chapter, Section, Division or Member seeking additional information about a specific program can contact the appropriate Circuit Vice President for assistance, or consult the FBA Leadership Directory for the President of the Chapter that conducted the program. A Chapter, Section, Division or Member also can contact any COC Member for assistance with community outreach programming,

In preparing this Report, we reached out to Chapters across the country, directly and through Circuit Vice-Presidents, to collect information about community outreach programming that has been, or is being, conducted at the Chapter level. While we were unable to collect information from every FBA Chapter, we are confident that we gathered sufficient information to make this report useful to Chapters, Sections or Divisions seeking to implement or expand their community outreach programming. We are open to revising the report with additional information received after the report is posted. We also note that most community outreach programming is conducted by Chapters rather than by Sections or Divisions, likely because Chapters are geographically located in and focused on a community, whereas Sections and Divisions cut across community lines. Nevertheless, we encourage Sections and Divisions to pair with Chapters in offering community outreach programming to the extent possible.

As you will see when you read this report, many of our Chapters are engaging in community outreach even before the FBA decided to highlight it as an initiative. The fact that FBA Chapters (and Members) have engaged in community outreach to this extent shows that it is a priority at the Chapter level and among Members, and that there is great desire among our Members to engage in community outreach. This bodes well for the success of any organized FBA initiative in this area. Another fact that emerges from this report is how the FBA Chapters' community outreach programming frequently benefits the federal district courts in a variety of ways, including pro bono assistance, reentry support and showcasing the positive side of the federal judicial system. This should ensure the support for, and involvement

of, the bench in the FBA's community outreach programming, which is often crucial to the success of such programming.

We offer this report with the knowledge that it is a snapshot in time, one that we hope will change rapidly as we expand community outreach programming throughout the FBA. But we offer this report to provide inspiration and information that will help expand the community outreach programming throughout the FBA. Finally, we note that in gathering this information, we were impressed by the Chapter Members' enthusiasm for, dedication to and pride in the community outreach programming offered by their Chapters. We look forward to guiding and expanding additional community outreach programming in the future.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Community Outreach Committee (COC) is to create, initiate and coordinate community outreach programs throughout the FBA, particularly through Chapters programs. The Community Outreach Committee will foster programming in which FBA members engage members of the public in a manner that focuses on advancing a positive view of the professionalism and good will of the FBA and its members, the federal courts and federal law. The COC's definition of community outreach remains flexible, but for guidance, the COC considers a community outreach program to be one in which members of the FBA engage in a program that does any of the following: (1) educates members of the public about the FBA or its members, federal practice, federal courts and/or federal law, (2) assists members of the public in a manner connected to use of the federal courts or federal law; (3) contributes to a charitable cause targeted at the community at large (such as a program that benefits a soup kitchen or food pantry) or (4) benefits a non-lawyer population connected to the federal courts, such as those convicted of federal crimes, or victims of federal crimes.

CHAPTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

I. Reentry Programs

Many federal courts have programs aimed at assisting individuals convicted of non-violent, lower level offenses to reenter society and become a productive member of the community. Several FBA Chapters have conducted programs to assist these individuals in approaching the job market, resolving legal issues and addressing other barriers that make it more difficult to reenter society as a productive member.

The Massachusetts Chapter: C.A.R.E./R.E.S.T.A.R.T.

The Massachusetts Chapter conducted a workshop to improve the interview skills of convicted felons on probation who are reentering the job market. The program ran in conjunction with the U.S. District Court's two probation programs. A Foundation grant funded two lunches and speakers' fees in connection with this program. The Massachusetts Chapter recently applied for another Foundation grant to conduct additional workshops, in which each participant conducts three mock interviews, with FBA Members serving as interviews and mentors/coaches. The program includes a motivational speaker.

The South Carolina Chapter: FBA-BRIDGE Mentoring Program

The South Carolina Chapter conducted a mentorship program for the newly developed federal drug court operated out of the Charleston Division of the U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina. The Chapter obtained a Foundation grant to provide participants with bike/bus passes, calling cards, pre-paid cell phones and other basic needs, as well as material regarding education, training and employment.

The Maryland Chapter: Federal Detainee Mediation Services

The Maryland Chapter adopted a program to monitor services and facilitate communication among participants in the Federal Detainee Mediation Program. FBA members also serve as mediators for the program. A Foundation grant funded a case manager salary.

The Chicago Chapter: Buying Change

In conjunction with the U.S. District Court's Second Chance Program to aid the reentry of individuals into society, the Chicago Chapter started the Buying Change program. Finding that the biggest need for the program was jobs, the Chicago Chapter acted as a liaison to bring the U.S. Probation Office in contact with businesses who hire or will hire individuals with felony convictions, and in return, the FBA members promote the products of those companies to law firms and other members of the FBA, so as to expand the need for these businesses to hire employees. The Chicago Chapter markets the products by informing its members of the companies' willingness to hire individuals with felony convictions, and informing its members of the products and services offered by these companies. For instance, a food service company that hires convicted felons is now providing catering for certain events of the Chicago Chapter, as well as law firms with attorneys who are members of the FBA.

The Utah Chapter: Help R.I.S.E.

The Utah Chapter has instituted the Help R.I.S.E. program to aid individual participants in the Utah District Court's drug and mental health re-entry courts. The Chapter recruits volunteer attorneys to counsel participants in the federal re-entry courts in the areas of family law, bankruptcy and landlord-tenant, which are common issues facing these individuals as they attempt to get and keep their lives on track. The Chapter provides a full day of CLE training in the key areas of law, and also arranges for the volunteer attorneys to have access to mentors in these areas of law.

The Montgomery Chapter: Reentry Support

The Montgomery Chapter provides support for the district court's reentry program by attending hearings and providing rewards to the participants for milestones achieved.

II. Pro Bono Programs

The following describes Chapter programs that assist the community in gaining meaningful access to the federal courts.

The Minnesota Chapter: Pro Se Project

The Minnesota Chapter coordinated a project with the District Court's Early Settlement Conference Project, which provides *pro se* parties with legal representation, through the Chapter's recruitment of volunteer lawyers. The lawyers represent the client for the purpose of participating in an early settlement conference. A Foundation grant funded payment for the services of a part-time coordinator.

The Utah Chapter: Civil Rights Pro Bono Project

The Utah Chapter oversees a civil rights pro bono project in conjunction with the Utah District Court, in which the Utah Chapter sends out letters encouraging firms to volunteer to accept three cases per year for a three-year period. The Chapter also provides CLE training, free of charge, for civil rights cases. The Chapter recognizes those firms that have provided exemplary service as appointed counsel.

The Orlando Chapter: Pro Se Project

The Foundation has awarded the Orlando Chapter a grant to assist with launching the Chapter's Civil *Pro Se* Project. The Middle District of Florida, where the Orlando Chapter is located, had the second highest number of *pro se* filings nationwide in FY 2013. This statistic is likely due to the fact that Coleman Federal Prison, the largest in the nation, is located within the district. The Chapter has compiled a list of volunteer attorneys willing to take the cases on a *pro bono* basis, but case appointments will not likely be in an attorney's regular practice area. The Orlando Chapter, therefore, obtained a Foundation grant to help fund a series of training sessions on issues that volunteer attorneys are likely to encounter in the *pro se* cases that they accept from the Civil Pro Se Project. The training sessions will assist the volunteer attorneys in handling the referrals from this project. The Civil Pro Se Project is designed to pair volunteer attorneys with civil *pro se* litigants in cases where the district judge has found a need to appoint counsel. The program benefits: (1) young attorneys by providing training and court

experience; (2) firms that earn *pro bono* credit, and (3) the judiciary that has access to attorneys who are willing and trained to accept *pro bono* appointments.

The Montgomery Chapter: Pro Se Assistance Program

Montgomery Chapter members worked with the Middle District of Alabama Bench to establish the Middle District *Pro Se* Assistance Program, which is designed to help litigants file amended complaints that will better advance their claims. A copy of the program brochure is attached. **(Appendix A)**

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter: “Ask the Lawyer” Program, Pro Bono Training and Pro Se Handbook

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter leads an annual “Ask the Lawyer” program at the federal courthouse and elsewhere in the community. The program enables citizens with legal questions or problems to seek free advice from an attorney. This year, the program was held at the Courthouse as part of the Law Day program. The event welcomed attorneys, staff and clients and downtown neighbors to visit the Courthouse, and to visit Federal Law Enforcement and Court Supervisory Agencies to learn about what they do. The event included tours of the Courthouse, demonstrations of bomb-sniffing dogs, and exhibits reflecting the Magna Carta theme of this year’s program. A free lunch of hot dogs, chips and cookies was served. Flyers from past programs are attached. **(Appendix B)**

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter also regularly recognizes *pro bono* contributions of lawyers and law firms, court staff and law students, with a variety of awards.

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter also hosts or otherwise participates in training sessions for *pro bono* volunteers in matters involving prisoner rights, immigration, foreclosure defense, labor and employment. Details of the program are set forth on the Chapter website at <https://fbamich.org/about-fba/mentoring-program/>

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter also was instrumental in assisting the district court in developing a manual for *pro se* litigants, “Filing and Handling Your Lawsuit in Federal Court.” The preface of the handbook

recognizes the Chapter's significant contribution, as well as that of several individual Chapter members.

The Oklahoma City Chapter: Pro Bono Program

The Oklahoma City Chapter assists the District Court in identifying attorneys willing to provide *pro bono* services for prisoners filing civil rights suits. Generally, the District Court requests the FBA's assistance after a suit survives summary judgment. The Chapter encourages and solicits attorneys to volunteer for the cases, and recognizes the contribution of the volunteer attorneys at the Chapter's annual judicial reception.

III. Youth Programs

A number of Chapters have reached out to youth to educate them about the courts, the law or the profession.

The Middle District of Pennsylvania Chapter: Celebrating 50 Years of Gideon — An Educational Program for High School Students

The Middle District of Pennsylvania Chapter put on a program to educate high school students about and to promote awareness of the *Gideon v. Wainwright* case on its 50th anniversary. A Foundation grant funded program materials and a thank-you reception for volunteers. The Middle District of Pennsylvania also recently applied for a Foundation grant for a program to bring local high school students to visit the federal courthouses, where they would learn about the court system and the roles of different people in the court system.

Chicago: The FBA William J. Hibbler Schoolhouse to Courthouse Event

The Chicago Chapter conducts a now-annual program named for a Judge William Hibbler (Deceased), who had been dedicated to mentoring youth. The program hosts about twenty-five 7th and 8th graders from an inner-city school to visit the U.S. District Court. The day starts with a meet and greet where FBA volunteer attorneys welcome the students over a continental breakfast in a room in the courthouse, and talk to them about being a lawyer and about federal court. The students, accompanied by chaperones and the FBA volunteers, then visit courtrooms and observe courtroom proceedings. After that, the students assemble in the Ceremonial Courtroom, where they meet a small group of judges, hear their divergent paths to the bench and ask questions of the judges. The students then go to a nearby law firm for lunch; in 2015, the lunch speaker was a retired federal judge who grew up in Mississippi in the Jim Crow era and shared with the students his amazing path to becoming a lawyer and then a judge. Initially funded by a Foundation grant, the program is now self-sustaining: the breakfast is paid for by the Chapter, and the remaining costs of the program, which include the students' bus transportation and lunch, are underwritten by the participating law firm. An Agenda is attached. **(Appendix C)**

The Broward County Chapter: Law Day Program

The Broward County Chapter, in conjunction with the U.S. District Court led by the Honorable Beth Bloom, conducted a Law Day program for local high school students. The students observed a presentation on the Magna Carta, a mock trial, a presentation of Dialogues on Freedom, live criminal hearings on a Magistrate Duty Calendar, and a panel discussion of judges and prominent area attorneys on overcoming challenges in their profession. An agenda is attached. **(Appendix D)**

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter: Just the Beginning Foundation Summer Institute

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter works with the Just the Beginning Foundation to co-sponsor a program for Detroit high school students to spend a week during the summer learning about the law and the legal profession. The Chapter provides both a financial contribution and member support toward the program. The program, which includes participation by judges, lawyers and educators, includes presentations on the rule of law, the federal courts, the life of a lawyer, financial literacy and college admissions. A recent program allowed the students to observe trial proceedings arising out of a drive-by shooting involving a high school student.

The Oklahoma City Chapter: Elementary School Mock Trial Program

Since 2013, the Oklahoma City University Law School Student Chapter of the FBA has coordinated a weeklong mock trial with a local elementary school. Law students visit the grade school class each day and introduce the students to the federal judicial system. For one presentation, a federal prosecutor and federal public defender discussed their roles in the system. Another session included a local attorney describing the jury system. On the final Friday, the Chief Judge hosts the students for a mock trial in her courtroom, in which “Pierce the Pig” is charged with “eggicide” – knocking Humpty Dumpty off the wall. Each student plays a role, as a lawyer or court staff or witness or juror. The law students assist the elementary school students in performing their roles. The Judge then welcomes the students to her chambers conference room for an informal lunch and a question-and-answer session. Local deputy marshals also visit the students during lunch

and explain what they do. Attached are documents relating to the program. **(Appendix E)**

The Oregon Chapter: Behind the Robe and Haggerty Scholars Program

The Oregon Chapter brings a high school class to the federal courthouse for a day, which includes a tour of various agencies, including U.S. Probation, the United States Marshal Service, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Office of the Federal Defender. The students observe a court proceeding, have lunch with federal judges and participate in a question and answer session with at least one judge. The program is funded through donations from private firms. The program uses externs and law clerks as guides for the day.

The Oregon Chapter also offers a program designed to honor the Honorable Ancer Haggerty (Ret.), who was the first (and to date the only) African-American to serve on the federal district court bench in the District of Oregon. The students are selected from a pool of applicants. Over the course of a year, the selected students are provided with various experiences through FBA members acting as mentors, and the students also are invited to attend the FBA's annual dinner. The program is funded by the FBA and by a CLE that generates funds.

The Los Angeles Chapter: Essay Contest: Our Constitution

The Los Angeles Chapter joins the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California to celebrate Constitution Day by holding an essay contest for high school students, about "Our Constitution: What the American Dream Means to Me." The contest awards cash prizes for the top three essays. The winners also are invited to a special ceremony at the Courthouse, where they read their essays aloud for parents and teachers, judges, lawyers and court personnel. Attached is a document setting forth the rules of the contest. **(Appendix F)**

The Inland Empire Chapter: Mentoring High School Students

The Inland Empire Chapter has set up a mentoring program at a local high school, for Chapter members to mentor students. During the year-long program, a Chapter member is assigned to mentor a specific high school student, which requires that the Chapter member visit that student at the

school four times a year, bringing lunch for the member and the student. The Chapter member also provides the student with the opportunity to shadow the Chapter member for a morning.

The New Orleans Chapter: YLD Angola Prison Tour Program

The New Orleans Chapter seeks to use a Foundation Grant to expand its conflict resolution program for at-risk youth. The program, which started with 100 students, provides positive instruction to at-risk youth regarding conflict resolution and the consequences of poor decisions. The program centers on a visit to Angola, the largest maximum security prison in the United States, and also seeks to provide mentorship to the youth.

IV. Professional Programs: Mentoring and Diversity

A number of Chapters have developed programming aimed at mentoring young lawyers and law students, and also aimed at promoting diversity in the profession. Although these programs do not fall within the strict definition of community outreach, the outreach to non-FBA members and, sometimes non-lawyers, makes these programs noteworthy when discussing community outreach programming.

The Capitol Hill Chapter: How Capitol Hill Really Works

The Capitol Hill Chapter conducted a program designed to educate law students about various employment opportunities in the legislative and judicial branches in Washington, D.C. The Foundation provided a grant to cover the cost of refreshments for a reception.

The Chicago Chapter: Mentoring Young Lawyers

The Chicago Chapter conducted a year-long mentoring program that qualified for CLE Ethics credit required by the State of Illinois. The program matched lawyers with at least 10 years' experience to mentor lawyers with no more than three years' experience. The program required mentors and mentees to become members of the FBA, which also increased membership. The mentors were required to meet with their mentees a certain number of times per year to qualify for CLE, and the Chapter arranged for three of those meetings to take place at a welcome reception, a mid-year lunch and a final "thank-you" reception. A Chapter Activity grant provided funds for the welcome and thank-you receptions, and a law firm provided the mid-year lunch. Attached are documents used to implement the program. **(Appendix G)**

The Northern District of Ohio Chapter: Ohio Inaugural Diversity Seminar

The Northern District of Ohio Chapter held a seminar on diversity in the courtroom, titled, "Jury Perceptions of the Diverse Lawyer in the Courtroom." A Foundation grant funded the speaker's fee and costs.

The Orlando Chapter: FAMU College of Law Federal Court Writing Competition

The Orlando Chapter holds a writing competition at the Florida A&M University College of Law, with the topic based on a Middle District of Florida case involving a decision relating to civil rights or constitutional rights. A Foundation grant provides scholarship awards.

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter: Diggin' Our Diversity Event and Sixth Annual Celebration of Diversity Reception

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter joined a variety of other bar associations, including ethnic-based bar associations, for a fifth annual diversity event in which members of the bar associations planted trees along city streets in the Greenwich Park Neighborhood in Detroit. Family members and friends joined in the activities.

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter also hosts an annual “Celebrating Our Diverse Bar” event in downtown Detroit, to formally recognize the importance of diversity in our profession. Each year, the proceeds are donated to educational or social causes. This year, the proceeds were donated to the Detroit Chapter of the Urban League. The Eastern District of Michigan also participated in a Diversity Task Force. A copy of the report is available at <https://fbamich.org/wp-content/upliads/2015/02/DiverstyTaskForce.pdf> and the guidelines are available at <https://fbamich.org/wp-content/upliads/2015/02/Committee-Diversty-Guidelines.pdf>

The North Central Florida Chapter: Women in the Law and Workplace Diversity and Balance

The North Central Florida Chapter had held leadership roundtables over the past two years focusing on women in the legal profession, and on work-life balance, as well as fostering more diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

The Tampa Bay Chapter: Federal Practice Mentor Program

The Tampa Bay Chapter conducted a mentoring program in which FBA members served as mentors for younger lawyers. The Foundation funded a welcome and thank-you reception.

The Tampa Bay Chapter also plans a leadership program designed to address retention of female attorneys and the gap between female representation and female leadership in the profession. The program, funded in part by a Foundation Grant, is proposed as a year-long symposium beginning with a kick-off CLE, followed by smaller quarterly meetings involving lawyers and judges, and a series of dinners with law firm leaders, business leaders and diversity experts.

The Oklahoma City Chapter: Mentorship Program

In 2015, the Foundation granted the Oklahoma City Chapter an award to fund a program designed to mentor FBA members who have zero to five years' experience. The program is intended to address the increase in young lawyers who do not have experienced attorneys to guide them through issues that they might encounter in the first five years of practice. **(Appendix H)**

The New Mexico Chapter: Education of Law Students About the Federal Legal System

The New Mexico Chapter conducted a tour of the Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse for law students. The Chapter worked with several Federal District Court Judges and faculty members of the University Of New Mexico School Of Law to organize this event. The judges presented the students with a view of the federal judicial system. At a reception following the tour, nine federal district court judges were inducted as honorary members of the FBA, and several law students joined the FBA as well.

The San Diego Chapter: Women in the Law Conference

The San Diego Chapter is planning Women in the Law Conference, which will be funded in part by a Foundation Grant. The program, entitled "Pathways to Leadership: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities," is scheduled as a half-day event, beginning with lunch, followed by a keynote speaker, two panels and a cocktail hour networking reception. The conference aims to analyze specific hurdles to women in the legal profession,

and to identify concrete strategies for overcoming these challenges on both an individual and institutional level.

V. Socially Conscious Programs

A number of Chapters have presented programs relating to socially important issues, which have value to the community by raising the consciousness of lawyers about socially important issues, and also inspire and motivate lawyers to contribute in some way toward these socially important issues.

The Chicago Chapter: 50th Anniversary Voting Rights Act Program/50th Anniversary Right to Counsel Commemoration

In 2014, the Chicago Chapter conducted two programs at the federal courthouse that appealed to the social conscience of its members. The Chicago Chapter conducted a program commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, and also conducted a program commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the *Gideon v. Wainwright* decision, providing the right to counsel in criminal cases.

The Orlando Chapter: Voting Rights Symposium

In 2015, the Foundation awarded the Orlando Chapter a grant to sponsor a Voting Rights Symposium to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. Members from both the Orlando Chapter and Sister Chapters were invited to the program. The Chapter also invited local high school students to attend. The program was designed to increase awareness of voting rights issues, particularly in the State of Florida, where recent redistricting efforts have disproportionately affected minority voters. One of the topics of the program is potential legislation that might be enacted at the federal level to address the *Shelby County v. Holder* holding.

The New Mexico Chapter: Gideon's Army

The New Mexico Chapter screened the documentary "Gideon's Army" in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Criminal Justice Act and the Supreme Court's decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright*. The screening of the film was followed by a panel discussion that included a Federal Court Judge, the current and a former United States Attorney, the Federal Public Defender and a Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney. The program provided participants with CLE credit.

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter: Wade H. McCree, Jr. Memorial Luncheon and Award for the Advancement of Socially Justice

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter has presented this award for 23 years, named after the first African-American U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Sixth Circuit, who also was the African-American Solicitor General of the United States. This year, the award was given to the president of a company that integrates the mentally ill and homeless population into society through a myriad of support services, including psychiatric counseling and medication.

The Maryland Chapter: Let Freedom Ring

In February 2015, the Maryland Chapter presented a play entitled ‘Let Freedom Ring,’ that was written and directed by The Honorable Paul Handy (ALJ). The play depicts the early days of Martin Luther King, Jr. in Montgomery, Alabama, his rise as a civil rights leader, and his quest to effect social change by non-violent means. The play featured a cast of notable local judges, within opening remarks by the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland and a panel discussion moderated by a Fox News anchor. During the event, a \$2,000 scholarship was presented to a program at the University Of Baltimore School Of Law designed to assist minority students with preparing for the LSAT and success in law school. Promotional materials related to this event are attached. **(Appendix I)**

VI. Military Outreach Programs

The Eastern District of New York Chapter: A Tribute to Women Military Veterans

In 2015, the Foundation awarded the Eastern District of New York a grant to fund an event honoring female veterans of military service, with an educational component highlighting legal and social issues that are available to assist female veterans with the unique challenges that they face. The event also honored four organizations that provide veterans assistance. Two district court judges who are World War II veterans welcomed the participants. The Chief Judge handed out plaques to each of the four honored organizations, and certificates to more than 50 veterans, and a lifetime achievement award to a 99 year old World War II veteran. Speakers included a military major, judges and, by recorded video, a United States Senator. A reception followed the ceremony, during which 25 organizations that provide services to veterans were set up to offer assistance. More than 250 people attended the program, including federal and state court judges.

The Eastern District of Michigan Chapter: Veterans' Treatment Court Seminar

The Eastern District of Michigan held a seminar on Veterans' Treatment Courts, which included experts on the topic and judges who have established such courts at both the state and federal levels. The purpose of the program is to enable attorneys to be part of a team approach to assist military veterans who have become involved in the criminal justice system, with a goal of a reduced plea and/or sentence.

FUNDING SOURCES

There are many private funding sources for community service programs and projects, including law firm participation or sponsorship. Many of the programs involve a reception, which many law firms are willing to host at their own expense.

In addition, the FBA has funding sources available:

Chapter Activity Fund Grants: A Chapter may apply for a grant from the Chapter Activity Fund (“CAF”) to finance an event. There are no limitations on the amount of money requested, but consideration will be given to available funds, the costs of the program and efforts to use alternative funding. There are no restrictions on the number of applications a Chapter may submit. However, consideration of a request will be viewed in light of the prior grants given to a Chapter. Priority for CAF funds will be given to smaller and newer Chapters, and to events, programs and/or activities which have not previously been funded by CAF grants. After the program, the Chapter will be expected to file a report regarding the disposition of funds and the success of the program. The rules and application are on the FBA website.

Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Chapter Community Outreach Grants: The Foundation of the Federal Bar, which is a charitable arm of the FBA, will fund community service or outreach projects that involve FBA Chapter participation. There are application deadlines, but a newer Chapter may apply at any time within the first 24 months of its charter, and will be given priority. Check the website for the rules and the application.

Ilene and Michael Shaw Public Service Award: A \$5,000 annual grant to provide seed money to plan and implement a public service program, as well as to continue an existing program. This award is given at the Annual Convention, with an application deadline of June 1.

The Ilene and Michael Shaw Younger Lawyer Public Service Grant: A \$5,000 grant awarded annually for public service projects and pro bono law

related services administered by a Chapter Younger Lawyer Committee. This award is given at the Annual Convention, with an application deadline of June 1.

Sections as Co-Sponsor: Sections have co-sponsored events with Chapters, which combines funding, resources and labor. Check the website for sections with which you can collaborate, such as the Federal Litigation Section, the Health Law Section, the Immigration Section, the Bankruptcy Section or the Securities Section. Contact your CVPs or Jane Zaretskie or Debbie Smith if you need help reaching out.

Chapters as Co-Sponsor: Pool your money, your talent, your resources and your membership with another Chapter in your geographical area to make a project doubly successful. A particularly well-known speaker may attract collaboration.

FUTURE GOALS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. To encourage and facilitate community service throughout the FBA, particularly at the Chapter level by increasing awareness of the benefits of community service at each opportunity.
2. To have the Committee Members serve as a resource for assisting CVPs and Chapters in developing community service programs or projects.
3. To encourage each Chapter to appoint a Community Service liaison, to ensure that a Chapter undertakes at least one community service program or project per year.
4. To encourage each Section to incorporate an element of community service into their programs, and/or to collaborate with a Chapter on a community service program.
5. To develop a national community service day throughout the FBA. This can be done by setting aside a particular day, week or month in which each Chapter holds a community service program, so that the impact of the FBA's dedication to community service is felt around the country. We hope to enlist the Foundation to provide partial funding for a uniform community service program. We also hope to encourage the planners of the annual meeting to consider incorporating a community service event into the annual program.
6. To recognize the outstanding community service programming offered by a Chapter with an annual award, presented at the annual meeting.

The Committee extends its appreciation to all Circuit Vice-Presidents and Chapter representatives who helped us gather information for this Report, and a special thanks to Jane Zaretskie for her invaluable help in preparing this Report.