



### Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section

On Jan. 13, 2017, the Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section hosted their first monthly luncheon series of the new year. Section members gathered at the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C., to listen to a panel discussion on setting career goals in transportation and transportation security. Panelists included Monica Hargrove, the vice president and secretary of Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority; Susan Prosnitz, deputy chief counsel for regulations and security standards at the Transportation Security Administration; and Fred Wagner of Beveridge & Diamond PC and former chief counsel of the Federal Highway Administration. The panel was moderated by Kathryn Gainey of Steptoe & Johnson LLP. ☺

### Qui Tam Section

#### The False Claims Act Today

On February 8 the *Qui Tam* Section launched “The False Claims Act Today,”

an ongoing series of seminars in which the section convenes local attorneys, judges, and government officials to discuss the venerable federal statute and its practice in their jurisdiction—and offers continuing legal education (CLE) credit for those who attend.

The debut event, hosted in the Northern District of Florida with support from the FBA's Tallahassee chapter, featured experienced practitioners from both sides of the bench as well as a federal prosecutor. Attendees heard about the growth in False Claims Act (FCA) cases, and their overlap with diverse practice areas including health care law, criminal law, government contract law, and general litigation. The CLE provided a primer on the FCA; a discussion of important cases, including recent developments in the Eleventh Circuit; practice tips; and a panel discussion that covered all sides of FCA practice.

Tom Findley of Messer Caparello, P.A., represented defense counsel in a discussion on the background of the FCA, including the elements parties must meet and the heightened pleading standard for claims under the statute. Rick Johnson represented relators counsel in a discussion of parallel claims that

might occur, such as retaliation or other employment actions. Leah Butler, assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Florida, provided invaluable practice tips and insight into how her office handles intake, investigation, and litigation of FCA cases.

After the formal presentation, panelists engaged in a question-and-answer period with the attendees and moderator Scott Oswald from The Employment Law Group, P.C. Lunch was provided and attendees earned 1.5 CLE credits for the event.

The *Qui Tam* Section plans to host sessions of “The False Claims Act Today” in jurisdictions across the U.S. in conjunction with local FBA chapters; at the time of publications, events were scheduled for Sacramento in May 2017 and Buffalo in September 2017. If you are interested in bringing the series to your region, contact Scott Oswald, the section's CLE chair, at [soswald@employment-lawgroup.com](mailto:soswald@employment-lawgroup.com). ☺

---

### Book Reviews *continued from page 80*

The only legitimate reason for custodial adult action restricting rights as exercised by an older child that *would* be available to an adult is a real threat that their exercise may pose to the child's future autonomy. For example, a child of any age short of majority may reasonably be restrained from trying to cross a “decrepit bridge,” because, if the bridge should fall, the child may well lose life or limb. Of course, the loss of life means no period of full adult functioning at all, and serious injury means a limit on that functioning; either way, the principal of the trust has been impaired.

It is a good point, and worth further discussion. Suppose, pursuant to that

discussion, that a junior high school librarian decides to acquire a copy of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* for that school's library. It is my impression that such a decision could set off a furor in many if not most of the public school districts in the United States. How might enraged parents argue, consistent with the rights-in-trust theory, that they are entitled to restrict their children's access to a literary treatment of statutory rape? What kind of evidence or arguments will count in trying to make the case that the book is analogous to the decrepit bridge? ☺

---

*Christopher C. Faille, a member of the Connecticut bar, is the author of* *Gambling*

*with Borrowed Chips, a heretical account of the Global Financial Crisis of 2007-08. He regularly writes for AllAboutAlpha, a website devoted to the analysis of alternative investment vehicles, and for MJINews, a website for actual and potential investors in the legal marijuana industry.*