



Left: Broward County: (l to r), Kimberly Gilmour, Jason Slatkin, and William Mueller.

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER

The Broward Chapter participated in the Wills for Veterans initiative. The chapter partnered with United Way's MISSION Unit-ed project. We conducted the program in two parts. First, on Nov. 2, there was training for lawyers interested in participating as well as meeting with vets in order to gather what they would need in terms of services. Then on Nov. 9, we had the actual event. Our lawyers provided services for 16 veterans. ☺

MA CHAPTER

Inaugural 'Wills For Veterans' Day

On Nov. 9, 2017, the Thursday before Veterans Day, the chapter inaugurated its first



Wills for Veterans Day. Organized mainly by Maj. James Downey, the chapter liaison for the Veterans and Military Law Committee, seven local attorneys who concentrate their practices in estate planning volunteered their services for the day. The estate planning volunteers were Kerry Reilly, Bill Friedler, Nicholas Jorge, Jason Cotton, Glynis A. Ritchie, Rebecca Tunney, and Amy R. Lonergan, the latter three from the Day Pitney law firm. Lynn Girton of Veterans Legal Services volunteered as a witness. Chapter President Harvey Weiner acted as greeter, witness, and gofer. The event was held in the JFK Federal Building in Boston. The event was advertised statewide through the Veterans Affairs, the National Guard, and certain veterans groups and other organizations.

Twenty-three veterans and nine spouses



had their wills, durable powers of attorneys, and health care proxies drafted and executed. Two veterans required complex estate plans, which two of the volunteer attorneys agreed to draft pro bono at a later date. Two housebound disabled veterans telephoned and one of the volunteer attorneys agreed to go out to their respective houses to draft their estate plans. The veterans came from 19 different cities and towns all over the state, including Springfield, Brockton, Bourne, Duxbury, New Bedford, Peabody, and Boxborough.

All seven attorneys volunteered to do it again next year, when this almost perfect event will be even better because of lessons learned. ☺





Above left: MA Chapter: Chapter President Harvey Weiner and Maj. James Downey, chapter liaison for the Veterans and Military Law Committee. Above right: MA Chapter: Lawyer volunteers Rebecca Tunney, Glynis Ritchie, Amy Lonergan, Jason Cotton, and Chapter President Harvey Weiner.



Left: Dayton Chapter: In conjunction with the Dayton Bar Association, FBA's Dayton Chapter held a day-long Wills for Veterans event at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Dayton.

DAYTON CHAPTER

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the Dayton FBA chapter, in conjunction with the Dayton Bar Association, held a day-long Wills for Veterans event at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Dayton. Forty-four (or more) veterans were provided with wills at no cost. More than 25 lawyers, judges, federal law clerks, and law students turned out to draft documents, talk to the veterans, and thank them for their service. The Dayton VA, one of the first VA facilities in the United States, honored the volunteers by presenting them with a military challenge coin commemorating the Dayton VA's 150th anniversary. ☺



Above: Members of the Northern District of Ohio meet with veterans during the 2017 Wills For Vets event.



San Antonio Chapter: The first shows our current president and our president-elect in the group of attorneys who participated. The next one shows our member—and organizer of the event—Sue Jana, along with CJP Managing Attorney Sarah Dingivan and Susan Wilen, lead Notary Public.