Utah

On Nov. 1, 2006, the Utah Chapter presented its Distinguished Service Awards for 2006 to Hon. David O. Nuffer, U.S. magistrate judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Utah; James S. Jardine of Ray Quinney & Nebeker; Richard N.W. Lambert, U.S. attorney’s office for the District of Utah; and Norrine J. Gardiner for her many years of honorable service to the U.S. District Court for the District of Utah. The Utah Chapter congratulates each of these individuals on their distinguished service to the federal courts and on receipt of this prestigious award.

On Nov. 9, 2006, state court Judge Constance Lindberg and Jay Jorgensen of Sidley & Austin LLP spoke about their experiences as law clerks for members of the U.S. Supreme Court, particularly about their experiences with Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Alito. Judge Lindberg clerked for Justice Sandra Day O’Connor at the same time that Chief Justice Roberts was clerk for then Associate Justice William H. Rehnquist. Jay Jorgensen clerked for both Justice Alito when he was a judge on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and Justice William H. Rehnquist at the U.S. Supreme Court. An overflow crowd of more than 60 people enjoyed this lively and entertaining presentation at the offices of Kirton & McConkie PC.

Atlanta

On Jan. 24, the Atlanta Chapter hosted a luncheon honoring the newly installed chief judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Hon. Jack T. Camp. Chief Judge Camp spoke about renovations to the Richard Russell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse and introduced Robert McCabe, the General Services Administration’s architect who supervised the renovations. The clerk of the court, James N. Hatten, discussed electronic filing and the court’s Web site. More than 100 people attended the luncheon, which was held at the offices of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP.

Tallahassee

On Jan. 17, 30 people attended the Tallahassee Chapter’s Meet and Greet event. During the reception Todd Pittenger, Eleventh Circuit vice president,
swore in the chapter’s new officers and provided Magistrate Judge William C. Sherrill Jr., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, with an honorary membership plaque. Chief Judge Robert Hinkle, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida; William McCool, District Court clerk; and Bill Blevins, Bankruptcy Court clerk were also in attendance.

D.C. Circuit

District of Columbia

On Jan. 17, the D.C. Chapter hosted recently sworn-in U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jeffrey Taylor at a luncheon at which he discussed his duties, past successes, and upcoming challenges. Taylor, who took office on Sept. 29, 2006, previously served as counsel to Attorney Generals Ashcroft and Gonzales as well as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California.

The U.S. attorney’s office for D.C. is facing staff reductions, and Taylor hopes to accomplish the same amount of work as the office did before the cuts by updating the criminal justice system’s procedures. For example, he says that a great deal of paper processing could be eliminated by bringing information technology into, say, the booking process, which takes up a lot of a prosecutor’s time and also delays police officers’ return to the beat.

Taylor’s office also faces competing needs and demands of the D.C. and federal governments. A priority for his office is bringing gun and drug cases to federal court, while also helping D.C. courts handle their own crimes. Terrorism prosecutions are on the rise. An interesting wrinkle is the case involving the constitutionality of the D.C. gun ban currently before the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, though this would not diminish the prosecutions of felon gun possession.

Taylor shared many other ideas and experiences with the attendees, who were served a buffet lunch in the Judges’ Dining Room in the courthouse of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. TFL

Chapter Exchange is compiled by Anne Daugherty, FBA manager of chapters and circuits. Send your chapter information to adaugherty@fedbar.org or Chapter Exchange, FBA, 2011 Crystal Drive, Suite 400, Arlington, VA 22202.

The Federal Litigation Section, in conjunction with the Mecklenburg County (N.C.) Bar, has produced a video, in DVD format, entitled “Electronic Discovery Update: Impact of the 2006 Federal Rules Changes.” A copy has been distributed at no charge to each FBA chapter.

The video, through following one hypothetical of a misappropriation of trade secrets, intersperses commentary by Joan Feldman of Navigant Consulting and Professor Alan Blakley, with scenes from the litigation — the Rule 16 meeting, a motion for protective order, a motion for sanctions and a motion for production of electronic information in native format. The video highlights the changes in Rules 16, 26, 37, and 34.

A copy can be purchased from the Federal Bar Association, Federal Litigation Section, for $39.00. Please e-mail your request for a copy to Lisa Armini at larmanini@meckbar.org.