

| Chapter Exchange |

FIRST CIRCUIT

Puerto Rico

On Dec. 9, 2010, the Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter held a seminar entitled “Emerging from Bankruptcy: Strategies for Successful Corporate Bankruptcy Litigation and Reorganizations.” Participants in the seminar included two bankruptcy judges, a former bankruptcy judge (and former president of the Puerto Rico Chapter), and several distinguished bankruptcy practitioners. The speakers’ presentations covered a wide array of topics, including strategies to structure, negotiate, and secure approval for bankruptcy sales; structuring and confirming plans for reorganization; structuring and confirming successful plans for reorganization; and current trends and practical perspectives on corporate bankruptcies. More than 130 practitioners attended the seminar, which was followed by a cocktail reception to start off the holiday season.



Puerto Rico Chapter: At the December seminar “Emerging from Bankruptcy” (left photo, l to r) Hon. Gerry Carlo, retired chief bankruptcy judge and past president of the Puerto Rico Chapter, addresses the attendees; (right photo, l to r) Carlos Valldejuly, chapter president; Hon. Brian Tester, U.S. bankruptcy judge; and Hon. Mildred Caban, U.S. bankruptcy judge.

FIFTH CIRCUIT

Mississippi

The Mississippi Chapter hosted a presentation by U.S. District Judge Dan Jordan at its bimonthly meeting. Judge Jordan shared with the overflow crowd some practice tips and insights from the trials over which he has presided over the years. His remarks were based on his courtroom observations and

post-trial interviews with jurors.

The chapter elected the following officers for 2011: Colby Lane, president; Jim Rosenblatt, vice president; Ryan Beckett, treasurer; and Kate Margolis, secretary. The chapter commends Ben Watson on his successful year as chapter president in 2010.

emony of the new courthouse (held Sept. 8), members of the judiciary and the chapter gathered for a reception in the Albert Armendariz Sr. U.S. Courthouse.

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Palm Beach County

On Oct. 29, 2010, the Palm Beach County Chapter was pleased to host a luncheon introducing the new U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida, Wilfredo Ferrer, who spoke about the challenges facing the district. Ferrer was introduced by District Judge Adalberto Jordan.

On Nov. 18, 2010, following a meet-

El Paso

On June 24, 2010, more than 40 law students and new associates participated in the chapter’s program entitled “Introduction to Federal Practice.” Attendees watched court proceedings, heard from judges and practitioners, and mingled at a reception. On Sept. 7, 2010, prior to the dedication cer-



Mississippi Chapter: At the chapter’s bi-monthly meeting—(l to r) Dean Jim Rosenblatt, chapter treasurer; Judge Dan Jordan, speaker; Ben Watson, chapter president; and Colby Lane, chapter vice president.



El Paso Chapter: At the chapter’s luncheon on Sept. 16, 2010—a visiting delegation of Colombian judges and prosecutors discussed the transition from an inquisitorial system to an adversarial system.

ing of the judges for the Southern District of Florida held in West Palm Beach, attorney Kelly Regan was presented the Judge James C. Paine “Unsung Hero” award at a reception hosted by the FBA’s Palm Beach County Chapter. The award is given annually to a lawyer who has selflessly served the court and contributed to the practice of law in the Southern District of Florida.

Tampa Bay

The Tampa Bay Chapter recently hosted its annual membership luncheon at the University Club. More than 100 chapter members attended the event. The luncheon included presentations by Judge Anne Conway, chief judge of the Middle District of Florida, who spoke about the state of the district, as well as by Robert O’Neill, U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Florida, and Donna Elm, a federal defender.

The chapter installed its new officers: Laurel Moore Lee, president; Julie Sneed, president-elect; Kevin Johnson, vice president; and Nicole Deese Newlon, treasurer. After being sworn in, Lee recognized the chapter’s immediate past president, Kevin Napper, for his service to the Tampa Bay Chapter during 2010. **TFL**

Chapter Exchange is compiled by Melissa Stevenson, FBA manager of chapters and circuits. Send your chapter information and photos to mstevenson@fedbar.org or Chapter Exchange, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.



Palm Beach Chapter: At the October luncheon—(left photo, l to r) District Judge Adalberto Jordan, Southern District of Florida; Wilfredo Ferrer, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida; and Kerry Baron, chapter president. At the November meeting—(right photo, l to r) Chief Judge Federico Moreno, Southern District of Florida; Kelly Regan, Judge James C. Paine “Unsung Hero” award recipient; and Judge Kenneth Marra, Southern District of Florida.



Tampa Bay Chapter: At the membership luncheon—(left photo, l to r) Kevin Napper, immediate past chapter president, and Laurel Moore Lee, newly elected chapter president; (right photo) Don Cox presents the chapter’s most distinguished honor, the George Carr Award, to Katherine “Kacy” Donlon, former president of the Tampa Bay Chapter.



Hawaii Chapter: At the chapter’s Second Annual FBA Meeting held at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel in Honolulu on Dec. 10—(left photo, l to r) Ashley Belleau, FBA president, and Juanita Sales Lee, past FBA president; (right photo, l to r) Judge Gustavo Gelpi, Puerto Rico Chapter past president; Judge Robert Bacharach, vice president for the 10th Circuit; Howard MacPherson, Hawaii Chapter past president.