

Honors and Awards

The American Bar Association's Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession presented its 2011 Spirit of Excellence Award to **Judge Denny Chin** of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit on Feb. 12, 2011, in Atlanta during the 2011 ABA Midyear Meeting. Last year, President Barack Obama nominated Chin for a seat on the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Senate confirmed Chin unanimously in April 2010. Currently, out of more than 175 active federal appellate court judges in this country, Chin is the only Asian Pacific American who is an active federal appellate court judge. Previously, he served as district judge of the Southern District of New York, a role to which he was appointed by President Bill Clinton. From 1982 to 1986, Chin was an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York. ... **Katherine "Kacy" Donlon** of Wiand Guerra King has been honored with the George C. Carr Memorial Award, presented to her by the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. This award, named for Chief Judge George Carr (1929–1990), is the chapter's highest award and recognizes excellence in federal practice and distinguished service to the Federal Bar Association. The award is presented to a lawyer who exemplifies Judge Carr's characteristics of common sense, integrity, and a lawyer who has made significant contributions to the FBA. Donlon served as the president of the Tampa Bay Chapter in 2005–2006 and

represented the chapter in December 2005 in making a presentation at the U.S. Supreme Court Building to Chief Justice William Rehnquist's daughter to commemorate the chapter's admiration after his passing. Donlon has practiced in the area of commercial litigation for the past 15 years; her main concentration has been defending businesses and individuals involved in the securities and financial services industries. ... **Richard J. Pocker**, the former chair of the FBA Federal Litigation Section, was selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*, in the category of Commercial Litigation for 2010 and 2011. He is the administrative partner for the Nevada office of New York-based Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP. Pocker also passed the 2009 New York State Bar Examination and was admitted to practice in New York last summer. ... *The American Lawyer* has named Sedgwick's Austin partner, **Laura Lee Prather**, one of the top "45 Under 45," an Am Law 200 listing of the best young female lawyers in the nation. Prather was recognized for her substantial career as a fierce advocate dedicated to preserving the First Amendment and defending media companies in cases involving privacy rights, alleged defamation, and trademark and copyright infringement. *The American Lawyer* reported that "in the 50-plus cases Prather has led, not only has she never lost one, but she has only lost a handful of summary judgment motions—all overturned on appeal." *The American Lawyer* reported that, in addition to Prather's impres-

sive career in court, her biggest coup was in the Texas legislature, where she spearheaded a broad-based effort to pass a Texas shield law that protects journalists.

Practitioners' News

Two partners in Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP made presentations at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's "A Day on Health Law" in Philadelphia on Oct. 19, 2010. **Kevin E. Raphael** presented a paper entitled "Crimes and Misdemeanors: The Intersection of Health Care Fraud and Rules of Professional Conduct," which included a discussion of the professional ethical dilemmas that arise for attorneys specializing in legal issues related to health care when they represent health care providers in investigations of fraud, abuse, and waste. **Marc S. Raspanti** co-presented a paper entitled "The 10 Things You Want to Know About Whistle-Blower Suits but Were Afraid to Ask," which provided a unique window into whistle-blower lawsuits as provided by attorneys who have represented whistle-blowers for more than two decades and have helped the government recover \$1 billion in taxpayers' funds. **TFL**

FBA Hearsay is compiled by Sarah Perlman, FBA communications coordinator. Send your information to sperlman@fedbar.org or FBA Hearsay, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.

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Managing Editor Stacy King, and Editor in Chief René Harrod for this wonderful opportunity. We are also indebted to attorney Shane Crase, who co-authored many of the early columns during our four-year tenure. This column is based on our own experience and practice in resolving many employment law cases and also on Michael Newman's experience as a private mediator.

Michael Newman is a partner in the Labor and Em-

ployment Department of the Cincinnati-based firm, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, where he serves as chair of the Labor and Employment Appellate Practice Group. He is a member of the FBA's national Board of Directors as well as TFL's editorial board. Faith Isenbath is an associate in the Labor and Employment Department at the same firm and a member of FBA's Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky Chapter. They may be reached at michael.newman@dinslaw.com and faith.isenbath@dinslaw.com, respectively.