

| Sections and Divisions |

Section on Taxation

The 35th Annual Tax Law Conference was held in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 25. Some of the numerous highlights included presentations by William J. Wilkins, IRS chief counsel, who discussed the IRS's approach to the economic substance doctrine; Manal S. Corwin, international tax counsel at the Treasury Department, who defended the international tax provisions in President Obama's budget; John A. DiCicco, acting assistant attorney general of the Justice Department's Tax Division, who described the division's current initiatives, such as combating offshore tax evasion; and Michael Mundaca, assistant secretary for tax policy at the Treasury Department, who spoke about the need for consensus on corporate tax reform. Conference attendees received an update on tax legislation from chief tax counsels from the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees.

Concurrent sessions throughout the day focused on critical developments in employee benefits and executive compensation, domestic corporate tax policy, international tax, tax practice and procedure, partnerships and pass-throughs, tax accounting, and financial products. This year, the section launched the inaugural Donald C. Alexander Tax Law Writing Competition awards ceremony held during the conference. This year's first place winner was Gail Eisenberg of the St. Louis University School of Law; the second place winner was Stephen Faivre of the University of Georgia School of Law. This year's Tax Law Conference was chaired by James Kroger and Christian Wood.

The section's 35th Annual Tax Law Conference would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. The elite sponsors for the 2011 conference included Baker & Hostetler; Bingham McCutchen

LLP; Caplin & Drysdale Chartered; Crowell & Moring LLP; Deloitte Tax LLP; Dewey and LeBoeuf LLP; Grant Thornton LLP; Hochman, Salkin, Rettig, Toscher & Perez PC; KPMG LLP; Mayer Brown LLP; Miller & Chevalier Chartered; Morrison & Foerster LLP; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP; and White & Case LLP. Regular sponsors included Baker & McKenzie LLP; Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; Goodwin Procter LLP; Ivins, Phillips & Barker Chartered; Jones Day LLP; Latham & Watkins LLP; Matheson Ormsby Prentice, McDermott Will & Emery LLP; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP; PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP; and Steptoe & Johnson LLP. The Section on Taxation would like to thank the sponsors for their continued support.

The FBA Section on Taxation presents the Kenneth H. Liles Award annually to recognize individuals for outstanding service and dedication to tax policy and administration as well as for their contributions to the bar and the legal profession. Ken Liles founded the FBA's modern-day Section on Taxation and helped to establish its high standards for service to the federal bar as well as education and policy work. Past recipients of the award include present and former commissioners of the Internal Revenue Service, chief counsels for the Internal Revenue Service, assistant secretaries for tax policy at the U.S. Treasury Department, federal judges, chiefs of staff of the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, and officials from the U.S. Justice Department.

At the conclusion of this year's annual Tax Law Conference on Feb. 25, the 2011 Liles award was awarded to the late Martin D. Ginsburg, who had been a professor of Law at Georgetown

University Law Center and of counsel to Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg accepted the award on behalf of her late husband. Professor Ginsburg's former colleagues and friends, Alan S. Kaden of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson and N. Jerold Cohen of Sutherland, Asbill, and Brennan, provided remarks on Professor Ginsburg's contribution to tax policy and administration as well as to the legal profession in general.

Labor & Employment Law Section

The Labor & Employment Law Section held its Fourth Biannual Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Feb. 18–19, 2011. For the first time, the Health Law Section joined the Labor & Employment Law Section in sponsoring a half-day CLE seminar on Saturday, Feb. 19. The panels included in the session were titled "The Essential EEO Update," "Wage Hour: Collective Actions vs. Class Actions," "Litigating Labor & Employment Law Cases," "Social Networking and Privacy in the Workplace," "EEOC Practice and Procedure," "E-Discovery, Spoilation of Evidence, and Technology Issues," "Hot Topics in the Tropic: Relevant Employment Law Issues for the First Circuit and Puerto Rican Attorneys," "Health Insurance Market Reform Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Grandfathered Health Plan Exemption," "Health Reform's Impact on Employer-Sponsored Group Health Plans and on Institutional Healthcare Providers," and "FMLA and ADA Update."

Section on Taxation: At the presentation of the 2011 Kenneth H. Liles Award—(l to r) Kari M. Larson, co-chair, 2011 Kenneth H. Liles Award; N. Jerold Cohen, partner, Sutherland, Asbill, and Brennan; Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Supreme Court; Alan S. Kaden, partner, Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson; and Mary W. Prosser, co-chair, 2011 Kenneth H. Liles Award.



Veterans Law Section

The Veterans Law Section, in conjunction with the New Orleans Chapter, presented a program entitled “Essentials of Helping Veterans Obtain Disability Compensation and Other Assistance” on March 23, at the Courthouse of the Eastern District of Louisiana. Speakers discussed the basics of assisting veterans in obtaining compensation for injuries and illness occurring while on active duty, with a particular emphasis on dealing with homeless veterans and those who have been discharged with other than honorable or punitive discharges. The featured speakers included Jim Richardson, former head of the Discharge Review Section Board for Correction of Naval Records and senior attorney adviser to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces; Carol Wild Scott, chair, Veterans Law Section; and Carrie Weletz, attorney at Bergmann & Moore LLC.

Government Contracts Section & Younger Lawyers Division

On March 31, the Government Contracts Section and the Younger Lawyers Division, in partnership with the Court of Federal Claims Bar Association and the George Washington University Law School, hosted a luncheon at which speakers discussed best practices for the Court of Federal Claims. Featured speakers included Chief Judge Emily C. Hewitt and Judge Marian Blank Horn, U.S. Court of Federal Claims; Dawn E. Goodman,

trial attorney, Commercial Litigation Branch/National Courts Section at the U.S. Department of Justice; Kenneth Dintzer, assistant director, Commercial Litigation Branch/National Courts Section at the U.S. Department of Justice; and Stuart Nibley, partner, Dickstein Shapiro LLP. The section would like to thank Dickstein Shapiro LLP for hosting this successful event.

Indian Law Section

The 36th Annual Indian Law Conference convened in Santa Fe, N.M., at the Pueblo of Pojoaque on April 6–8. Because Native peoples have long been innovators in tribal governance, economic development, and cultural revitalization, this year’s conference took a deliberate look at some of the best practices in federal Indian law as a means of approaching challenges faced by American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian peoples.

Panel discussions covered Indian land and trust law, finance, criminal justice, gaming, and taxation. Each panel focused on a continuing legal challenge and the ways that tribes, agencies, legislators, courts, and others are responding to it. Other sessions addressed domestic and international advocacy, along with ethical considerations of in-house tribal legal counsel. Focus groups provided “nuts and bolts” information and strategies on water law; tribal family, women, and children’s programs; religious freedoms; civil jurisdiction;

and environmental justice. An exciting lineup of speakers from private practice, education, government, and tribal leadership provided the latest updates on these topics.

This year’s conference also featured plenary addresses by David Getches, dean of the University of Colorado Law School; Robert Odawi Porter, president of the Seneca Nation; Steffani Cochran, vice chair of the National Indian Gaming Commission; and Neal Katyal, acting solicitor of the United States. A special program honored the Native American Rights Fund’s 40th anniversary and its leadership role in best Indian law practices.

During the Friday luncheon, the annual Indian Law Awards were presented. Bill Wood received the Section Service Award for his exemplary work as editor of *Federal Indian Law*, the Indian Law Section’s newsletter. Alan Taradash was awarded the Lawrence R. Baca Lifetime Achievement Award for his more than two decades of work on behalf of Native Americans. The award is given to an attorney who has worked in the field of Indian law for more than 20 years and who has made significant contributions to the field.

The section would like to thank this year’s conference co-chairs: Kristen A. Carpenter, associate professor, University of Colorado Law School; Angela R. Riley, professor, University of California at Los Angeles School of Law, and

SECTIONS *continued on page 9*



Indian Law Section: At the 36th Annual Indian Law Conference—(top left photo, l to r) (left photo, l to r) Elizabeth Kronk, chair, Indian Law Section; William Wood, Section Service Award winner; Lawrence R. Baca, chair emeritus, Indian Law Section; and Alan Taradash, Lawrence R. Baca Lifetime Achievement Award winner.



Government Contracts Section and the Younger Lawyers Division: At the Fourth Biannual Conference—(l to r): Stuart Nibley, Judge Marian Blank Horn, Dawn E. Goodman, Kenneth Dintzer, and Chief Judge Emily C. Hewitt.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO FBA ISSUES AGENDA

FBA members — as well as chapters, sections, and divisions — are invited to nominate issues for inclusion in the FBA Government Relations Issues Agenda for 2011–12.

The deadline for all agenda nominations is Friday, May 20.

The Issues Agenda, updated annually, provides the focus for the FBA's Government Relations program. It is a prioritized list of major areas of Congressional and/or Executive Branch activity that impact the federal legal system and federal jurisprudence. On the basis of nominations received, the FBA Government Relations Committee will prepare a proposed Issues Agenda for 2011–12 for approval by the FBA Board of Directors.

The current 2010–11 Issues Agenda is on the FBA Web site at: www.fedbar.org/IssuesAgenda. Items appearing on the current Issues Agenda automatically will be considered for renewal by the Government Relations Committee. In addition, new issues may be nominated by any FBA member, chapter, section, or division.

To nominate an issue for the Issues Agenda, please identify the issue in writing and briefly describe its merits, as well as its pertinence to the FBA and its stakeholders. Please send your nomination(s) by May 20 to:

Bruce Moyer
FBA Government Relations Counsel
E-mail: grc@fedbar.org

The Government Relations Committee will review all nominations and submit a proposed Issues Agenda to the FBA Board of Directors for consideration and approval later this summer.

SECTIONS *continued from page 7*

director, UCLA American Indian Studies Center; Paul Spruhan, assistant attorney-general, Navajo Nation Department of Justice; and Tracy Toulou, director, Office of Tribal Justice, U.S. Department of Justice. Next year's conference will be held on April 19–20, 2012.

Immigration Law Section

On March 29, the Immigration Law Section, in partnership with the George Washington University Law School, held

an Immigration Career Day. There have never been more career opportunities for attorneys in the growing field of immigration law than there are today. This event was held to inform law students and recent graduates about available opportunities in the field. Representatives from U.S. government agencies, law firms that practice immigration law, and selected nongovernmental organizations described their organizations and the type of work performed and provided information on application requirements. The event was a huge

success, with over 40 students attending. The section would like to thank the representatives who participated and George Washington University Law School for hosting the event and providing refreshments. **TFL**

Sections and Divisions is compiled by Adrienne Woolley, FBA manager of sections and divisions. Send your information to awoolley@fedbar.org or Sections and Divisions, FBA, 1220 N. Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.



Immigration Law Section: At the Immigration Career Day—(l to r) Elizabeth Stevens, assistant director, Office of Immigration Litigation, U.S. Department of Justice; Claire Kelly, conference coordinator; Larry Burman, vice chair, Immigration Law Section; Elizabeth Quinn, partner, Maggio & Kattar; Anjali Zielinski, Presidential Management Fellow, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Andres Benach, partner, Duane Morris (back); Mark Shmueli, Law Office of Mark Shmueli (front); Michael Metzgar, associate counsel, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security; and Nina Elliot, Office of the Chief Immigration Judge, Department of Justice.