

### Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources Section

On April 18, the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources Section hosted a webinar on the topic of natural gas development by hydraulic fracturing and the most recently enacted comprehensive statutory scheme addressing regulation of shale hydrofracking. The featured speakers included Elizabeth Nolan, regulatory counsel for oil and gas, Pennsylvania Department of the Environmental Protection, and Scott Perry, deputy secretary for oil and gas management, Pennsylvania Department of the Environmental Protection. The program was moderated by Ken Gelburd, EENR board member and program chair.

### Federal Litigation Section

On April 25, the Federal Litigation Section hosted a webinar entitled “Jurors Tweeting Their Way to Trouble: Social Media, the Internet and Jury Trials.” The panel included discussions on the problems with jurors inappropriately accessing social media and the Internet, Internet usage in jury selections, examples of situations from actual trials, and other practical advice for trial attorneys. Speakers included Hon. Michelle H. Burns, magistrate judge, United States District Court for the District of Arizona; Jeffrey T. Frederick, director, Jury Research Services, National Legal Research Group Inc.; and Collin Hite, partner, Toxic Torts & Environmental Department, McGuire Woods LLP.

### Indian Law Section

The 37th Annual Indian Law Conference took place in Santa Fe, N.M., at the Pueblo of Pojoaque on April 19–20. Because maps have played such a vital role in the goals and objectives of Indian affairs, this year’s conference focused on the theme of mapping Indian country and the many ways this practice still shapes federal Indian law and policy today.

Panels discussed such topics as digital mapping, which focused on cyber-casinos and the use of GIS data to secure sacred sites and target crime; identity mapping, which covered the ideas of defining membership and the

impact of a mobile society on Indian country; and boundary mapping, which addressed reservation boundaries and intergovernmental disputes. Other plenary sessions included talks on trans-boundary resolutions and the Saginaw Chippewa model for intergovernmental jurisdictional agreements; the metes and bounds of laches, focusing on New York land claims and their repercussions; and transportation issues in Indian country. Breakout sessions included specialized panels on federal court nominations and the Indian Child Welfare Act and the codification into state law. The program also included a meeting with the Indian Law and Order Commission. Speakers included respected professionals from private practice, education, and government to help make this year’s conference a success.

A tribute to David Getches, a renowned expert on Indian Law issues who passed away last year, took place during the Friday luncheon.

The Indian Law Section would like to thank this year’s conference chairs for their dedication and hard work: Patrice H. Kunesh, deputy solicitor for Indian affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior; Andrew Adams III, associate, Jacobson, Buffalo, Magnuson, Anderson, & Hogen PC; Matthew L.M. Fletcher, associate professor, Michigan State University College of Law; and Venus McGhee

Prince, attorney general, Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

### Veterans Law Section

The Veterans Law Section, in association with the American Bar Association’s Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, co-sponsored the Fourth Annual Veterans’ Legal Assistance Conference: “An Opportunity to Serve Those Who Served Our Country,” which was held at the University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law on April 20. The event was designed for students, attorneys, veterans, and many other service professionals to meet and discuss various issues concerning veterans. The program also included training for attorneys in how to represent veterans pro bono in claims for service-related disability benefits. Sessions included topics on traumatic brain injury and effective representation in these benefits cases, child access issues for deploying and deployed individuals, and the impact of changes in military policy on a veteran’s discharge status. **TFL**

*Sections and Divisions is compiled by Sherwin Valerio, FBA manager of sections and divisions. Send your information to [svalerio@fedbar.org](mailto:svalerio@fedbar.org). Visit [www.fedbar.org](http://www.fedbar.org) for the latest section and division news and events.*



**Indian Law Section:** At the 37th Annual Indian Law Conference—(l to r) Fern Bomchill, FBA national president; Hon. Michael McBride, Crowe & Dunlevy PC, and his wife Ping; and Todd Hembree, attorney general, Cherokee Nation.