



IMMIGRATION LAW SECTION

Immigration Leadership Monthly Lunch

On May 15, the Immigration Law Section continued their successful Immigration Leadership Monthly Lunch Series, which is also presented by the District of Columbia Chapter of the FBA. The featured speaker was Maria M. Odom, who was appointed citizenship and immigration services ombudsman for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by Secretary Janet Napolitano in September 2012. In this role, Odom leads the Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman, which is dedicated to improving the quality of citizenship and immigration services delivered to the public by providing individual case assistance, as well as making recommendations to improve the administration of immigration benefits.

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION

Section Presents Biannual Conference

On May 2-3, the Labor and Employment Law Section presented the FBA Labor

and Employment Law Conference in New Orleans. Featured sessions included topics such as insider perspectives on EEOC enforcement and litigation, internal investigations and HR audits, and ERISA tips for employment practitioners. There were updates regarding the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) as well as the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The luncheon program featured Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

SECTION ON TAXATION

25th Annual Insurance Tax Seminar

On May 30-31, the Section on Taxation, in conjunction with the Office of Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, hosted the 25th Annual Insurance Tax Seminar in Washington, D.C. The program focused on dialogue with government personnel on property, casualty, and life insurance tax issues. Program topics included tax issues for insurance companies in the current economic environment as well as tax policies from the view of economists.

Sessions featured panels on subjects such as variable annuities, hedging, and the related IIR, as well as how current tax legislation affects the insurance industry. Updates were given on transfer pricing issues in the insurance industry as well as on tax issues and life insurance reserves. Featured speakers included William J. Wilkins, chief counsel, Internal Revenue Service; James B. Mackie III, director, Office of Tax Analysis, U.S. Department of Treasury; and Heather C. Maloy, commissioner, LB&I, IRS.

TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSPORTATION SECURITY LAW SECTION

Transportation Law Luncheon

On May 28, the Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section continued their luncheon series with the program "Transportation Safety and the National Transportation Safety Board: A Legal Perspective." The event was moderated by Section Chair Monica Hargrove and featured a discussion with speaker David Tochen, general counsel at the National



Section on Taxation: At the Insurance Tax Seminar—(l to r) Section on Taxation Chair Fred Murray, with Nancy Vozar Knapp, associate area counsel, LB&I, Office of Chief Counsel, IRS.



Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section: At the Transportation Law Luncheon on May 28—(l to r) TTSL Section board members Steve Osit, Alice Koethe, Monica Hargrove, speakers David Tochen, and section board members Kathy Gainey, David Ralston, and Scott Mirelson.

Transportation Safety Board. The program was attended heavily by section members as well as by a number of summer interns. Please visit the Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section page on www.fedbar.org for more details on future events.

VETERANS AND MILITARY LAW SECTION

5th Annual Veterans Legal Assistance Conference

On June 7, the Veterans and Military Law Section helped present the 5th Annual Veterans Legal Assistance Conference entitled “An Opportunity to Serve Those Who Served Our Country,” held at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law in Baltimore. More than 70 people attended the conference, which provided a forum for discussing critical issues facing the nation’s veterans. The conference also included a training for lawyers to represent veterans pro bono in claims for service-related disability benefits.

Among the speakers were Linda Blauhut, associate general counsel for Paralyzed Veterans of America and a former chair of the VMLS, and Major M.J. Hegar, the lead plaintiff in *Hegar v. Panetta*. The section’s financial contribution enabled the conference to present Maj. Hegar.

The Veterans and Military Law Section plans to continue this work in the future to support the nation’s veterans.

YOUNGER LAWYERS DIVISION

Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony

On May 28, the Younger Lawyers Division sponsored its annual Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony at the U.S. Supreme Court at which 28 lawyers from across the country were sworn into the Supreme Court Bar. Following the reception, attorneys and guests attended a private lecture on the history and architecture of the Supreme Court. The Younger Lawyers Division would like to thank this year’s chairs; Christian Adams, Jessica Toplin, and Adine Momoh for organizing the event. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Supreme Court Bar should look for details to be provided early next year. ☺



Younger Lawyers Division: At the Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony on May 28—Newly admitted attorneys at the breakfast reception after the ceremony.



Veterans and Military Law Section: At the veterans conference—Conference organizers with featured speaker Major M.J. Hegar.

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critical to the foundation of our government.

Through its Chapter Activity Fund Grant, the FBA helped make this extraordinary event possible.

SIXTH CIRCUIT

Dayton Chapter

Chapter Hosts Raymond J. Dowd

On May 21, the chapter hosted Raymond J. Dowd, a partner in the New York City law firm Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP.

Dowd, who is an FBA vice president for the Second Circuit, has become known in the past decade as an expert in the area of Nazi-looted art and its recovery by the family members of Holocaust victims in the United States. He travels to museums worldwide speaking on this topic, and he made a special trip to Dayton to share his expertise and experience with members of the Dayton Chapter, as well as local art patrons. His speech at the Dayton Art Institute (DAI), which lasted close to two hours, was extremely well received. ☺