Admiralty Law

Maritime Law by the Bay

The Admiralty Law Section and the American Bar Association TIPS Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee co-sponsored Maritime Law by the Bay on Aug. 5, 2016. Held in the stately Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the seminar featured a host of experienced practitioners from around the country.

Otis Felder, Gavin Guillot, and Dave Boyajian presented an analysis and update of maritime personal injury law, including jurisdiction, longshoreman, and the implications of legalized marijuana. Raymond Waid then led a roundtable discussion about mediating personal injury claims featuring a variety of viewpoints: Jerry Spolter, JAMS mediator; Barbara Bodager, client viewpoint; Charles Bourque, plaintiff perspective; and Courtney Crawford, defendant perspective. Attendees were treated with lunch, graciously provided by JAMS. Attendees then enjoyed a networking reception graciously sponsored by Robson Forensic. Special thanks to the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Robson Forensic, and JAMS.

Younger Lawyers Division

Summer Law Clerk Program

This year, over 300 summer law clerks participated in the Younger Lawyers Division’s 2016 Summer Law Clerk Program. The two-month program began with a Kickoff Event at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which featured remarks from Federal Circuit Court Judge Raymond Chen and Department of Justice attorney Martin Tomlinson. These speakers shared lessons they’ve learned from practicing law and offered valuable advice to the gathering of soon-to-be lawyers. During the months of June and July, program attendees had the opportunity to visit 12 different federal agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Education, Department of Treasury, Department of Justice, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Election Commission, Federal Labor Relations Authority, Library of Congress, Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Labor Relations Board, and the U.S. Postal Service. During these visits, the law clerks were also able to meet with attorneys and high-ranking officials from the various agencies to learn more about the legal work performed in carrying out the various agencies’ missions.

Additionally, this year’s program featured five different panel discussions on legal careers with various federal employers and in various federal practice areas. The Depart-
ment of Defense Panel included active duty judge advocates from the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard, and took place at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. Other panels included Career Paths with the Court of Federal Claims, Department of Justice, and Legal Careers on Capitol Hill. The FBA’s Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section sponsored a “speed-mentoring” program that connected participants with legal leaders from all modes of transportation practice. Tom Lehrich, deputy inspector general and counsel for the architect of the capitol remarked, “The ability to provide advice and lessons to an accomplished and motivated group of students is an important role for our profession.” A participant noted, “I thought it was the best and most effective networking event that I have ever attended.” A special thanks goes to Joey Bowers and Jessica Toplin, Younger Lawyers Division board members and co-directors of the program, as well as national staff members Maria Conticelli and Caitlin Rider, for organizing and administering such a successful event.

The Summer Law Clerk Program’s Transportation and Transportation Security Law Mentoring event included many FBA attorneys.

The Summer Law Clerk Program’s Transportation and Transportation Security Law Mentoring event matched law students with experienced practitioners and attorneys.