

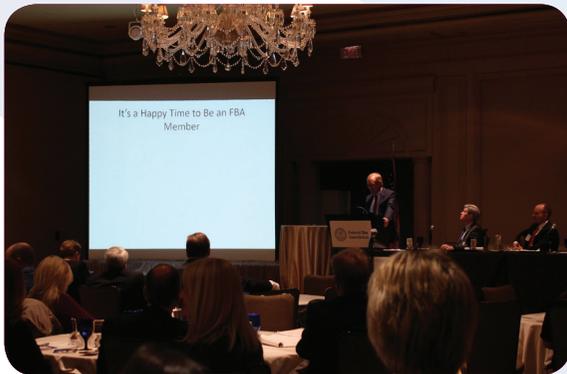
# Midyear Meeting 2018



*From L to R: John Malcolm, Bryce Moyer, and Ugonna Eze enjoyed the reception.*



*The FBA's Southern District of New York chapter presented a video.*



*Jonathan Hafen gave his membership update to leadership during the general session.*



*Jonathan Hafen and Ashley Akers enjoyed the post meeting reception.*

**F**BA leaders past and present gathered in Arlington, Va., March 22-24 for meetings, events, and networking at the FBA 2018 Midyear Meeting. The 23rd Annual Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition started the weekend with preliminary rounds Thursday night, March 22. The top 16 teams from colleges across the United States then advanced to the next day's oral arguments, where four rounds narrowed the field to two final teams from St. Mary's Law School competing in the courtroom at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

After a full day of business meetings on Friday, FBA leaders reconvened Saturday morning for the Keynote Address by Nora Riva Bergman, "55 Ways to Increase Your Productivity, Decrease Your Stress, and Get More Done in Less Time." Bergman, a former employment law attorney and Atticus Certified Practice Advisor, provided numerous tips for attorney time and work management. Circuit vice presidents, chapter leaders, and section and division leaders then divided into groups to discuss challenges and successes during breakout sessions.

A highlight of the morning was a discussion about a podcast recording presentation on the state of judicial nominations in the first year of the Trump presidency. Jeffrey Rosen of the National Constitution Center moderated a lively debate sponsored by the FBA and the National Constitution Center with generous support from the Foundation of the FBA. The program examined the state of the judicial nomination and confirmation process, reviewed Trump's plan for filling vacancies, and looked ahead to the potential changes that could occur in a Trump-appointed judiciary.

The luncheon keynote address continued the government relations theme. Ira Shapiro, author of "Broken: Can the Senate Save Itself and the Country?", talked about our political institutions and the steps we, as federal lawyers, and our leaders need to take to restore the Senate as the venue for legislative bipartisanship and the finding of common ground.

The day ended with a productive and lively National Council meeting and networking reception. The Southern District of New York Chapter looks forward to seeing everyone at the 2018 Annual Convention in downtown NYC!