

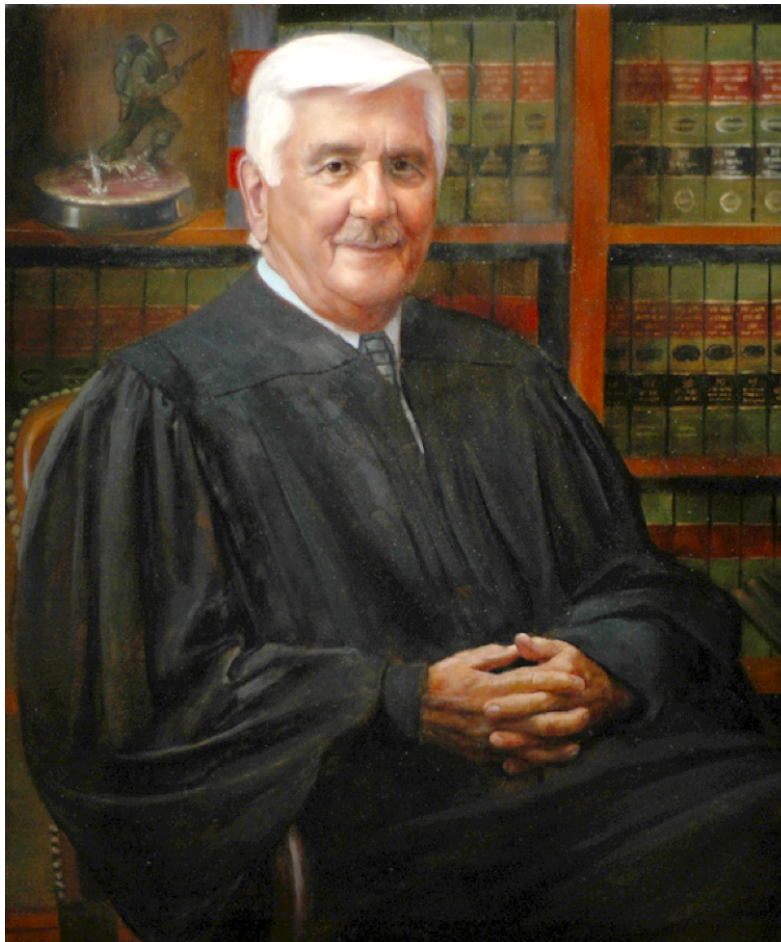


FROM THE  
**BAR**

A publication of the Federal Bar Association,  
Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter

SUMMER 2015  
ISSUE NO. 54

## A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE RAYMOND L. ACOSTA



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Hon. Raymond L. Acosta  
Puerto Rico Chapter**



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**BAR**

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# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Luz C. Molinelli-González



This issue is a tribute to Hon. Raymond L. Acosta, a devoted public servant who honorably served three decades on the bench, and an exceptional jurist whose grace and gentility are known to all in his professional and personal life.

As many of you know, Judge Acosta was one of the founders of the Antilles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, serving as its president in 1967. Due to his continuous support and compromise with the organization, on 2010 the Puerto Rico Chapter was renamed “The Honorable Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association” in his honor. Judge Acosta was also a Life Fellow of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

We are proud to continue honoring Judge Acosta, by dedicating this issue to him. Our special thanks to Hon. Aida M. Delgado-Colón, Hon. Carmen Consuelo Cerezo, Hon. Juan R. Torruella, Frances Ríos de Morán, Esq. and Roberto A. Cámara Fuertes, Esq. for their collaborations in this issue.



Federal Bar Association  
Hon. Raymond L. Acosta  
Puerto Rico Chapter

FROM THE

**BAR**

## Call for Articles and Submissions Deadline

The Chapter’s newsletter committee is looking for articles, book reviews, commentaries and “focus on” pieces on emerging legal trends or addressing specific areas of concern within the legal field for publication in the *From the Bar* Newsletter.

If you have an article or piece you would like to have included in the newsletter, please submit your articles via email to Luz C. Molinelli ([luzmolinelli@gmail.com](mailto:luzmolinelli@gmail.com)).

# IN MEMORIAM: JUDGE RAYMOND L. ACOSTA (1925-2014)

By: Frances Ríos de Morán, Esq.  
Clerk of the Court, U.S. District Court,  
District of Puerto Rico

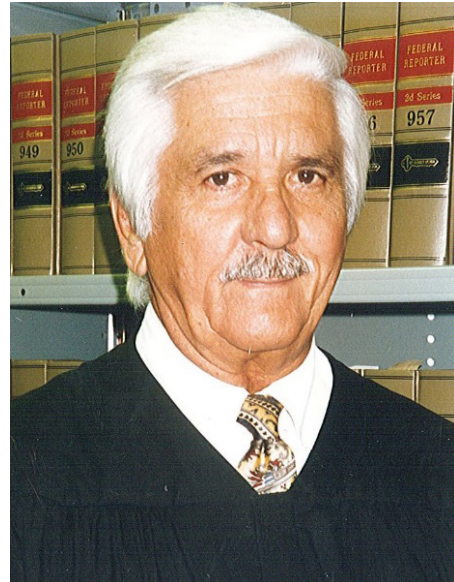
In the early morning hours of December 23, 2014, Judge Raymond L. Acosta, a member of the Bench of the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico from 1982 to 2010, died peacefully in his home in Chapin, South Carolina, after a long and valiant battle with cancer. He was 89 years old.

Judge Acosta had a long and illustrious career in the Government and private sectors. He served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946, during World War II, and participated in the D-Day Invasion of Normandy (Utah Beach) on June 6, 1944. He entered the private practice of law in 1953 in the New Jersey Bar. A year later, he served as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigations and in 1958 became an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Puerto Rico. He became a private practitioner in 1961, specializing in banking and trust litigation, holding several board positions at Banco Banco Crédito y Ahorro Ponceño, Banco Popular de Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rico Bankers Association, and the United Fund of Puerto Rico.

In 1962, Judge Acosta was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson as an alternate delegate to the U.S. Puerto Rico Commission on the Status of Puerto Rico (STACOM); he also served as a member of the Governor's Special Committee to study the structure and organization of the Puerto Rico Police Department. In 1980 he was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as the United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, serving until September 1982, when he was appointed by President Ronald Reagan as a United States District Judge. He assumed Senior status in 1994 and retired in 2010.

For the younger generation, Judge Acosta will be best remembered for having presided over the litigation of the DuPont Plaza Hotel arson during which 98 persons were killed and 140 injured on New Year's Eve 1986. Judge Acosta's masterful and innovative handling of the complex mass disaster litigation that ensued is a benchmark in the annals of complex mass tort litigation. His able management led to the commencement of trial only 27 months after the fire, and approval of a \$220 million settlement of the lawsuit which involved 2,400 plaintiffs and 250 defendants, after three trial phases over the course of 19 months.

Most recently, the 2013 Federal Bar Association's (FBA) Annual Meeting featured the video "The Modern Day Courtroom" narrated by Judge Acosta as guidance for future



generations of attorneys. In the video, Judge Acosta shared his insight concerning the complex logistics involved in the DuPont Plaza litigation. The video's release at the FBA's Annual Meeting was most fitting, considering that Judge Acosta was one of the founders of the then-called Antilles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and served as its first president in 1967. In fact, the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association was renamed "The Honorable Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association" in 2008, at which time he was elevated to Life Fellow of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

On a more personal note, Judge Acosta, will be remembered as an avid tennis player. Significantly, endurance, one of the main attributes of a successful tennis player, is a quality which "Ray" mastered in both the sports and legal "courts." A testament to the legacy of Judge Acosta, family man, attorney, soldier, civil servant, judge, always a gentleman in the true sense, is evocative of the words of poet James Russell Lowell in that, "Endurance is the crowning quality, and patience all the passion of great hearts."

In a recent communication to friends, Judge Acosta's character of endurance prevailed. He said, "I feel very fortunate to have lived a full life and to have shared it with so many wonderful people along the way. I wish all you fellow travelers a good and rewarding journey."

Rest in peace, Raymond L. Acosta, a gentle soul and a gentle man.

# CEREMONY IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HON. RAYMOND L. ACOSTA

By Luz C. Molinelli-González

On Friday May 15, 2015, the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico held a beautiful ceremony in remembrance of the Hon. Raymond L. Acosta, U.S. District Judge. Frances Ríos de Morán, Esq. opened the Court Session and welcomed all in attendance offering a few warm words in honor of Judge Acosta. Renowned members of the bar (including attorneys whom participated in the Dupont Plaza Litigation) and honorable judges were in attendance, for instance: Hon. Aida M. Delgado Colón, Hon. Carmen Consuelo Cerezo, Hon. Jay A. García Gregory, Hon. José A. Fusté, Hon. Salvador E. Casellas, Hon. Pedro A. Delgado, Hon. Francisco Besosa, Hon. Juan M. Pérez Giménez, Hon. Daniel R. Domínguez, Hon. Justo Arenas, Hon. Camille L. Vélez Rivé, Hon. Bruce J. McGiverin, Hon. Marcos E. López and Hon. Silvia Carreño-Coll. Also in attendance were Hon. Liana Fiol Matta, Chief Justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court and Associate Justices, Hon. Rafael L. Martínez Torres, Hon. Roberto Feliberti Cintrón, Hon. Maite D. Oronoz Rodríguez. Mrs. Marie Hatcher, also graced us with her presence.

Ramón L. Walker, Esq. whom worked with Judge Acosta while he was U.S. Attorney, initiated the ceremony with an invocation and a minute of silence, followed by remarks by Hon. Aida M. Delgado Colón, Hon. Juan R. Torruella, Hon. Carmen C. Cerezo, Hon. José A. Fusté, Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpí, Hon. Daniel R. Domínguez and Hon. Justo Arenas.

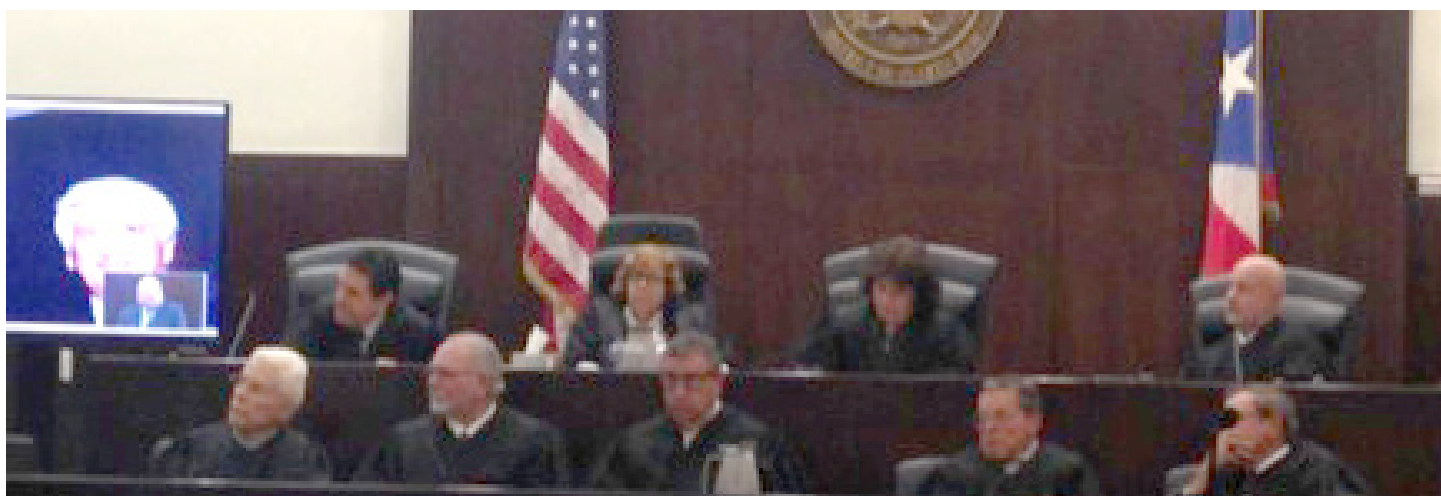
Chief Judge Delgado-Colón emphasized Judge Acosta's humbleness and strength. She remembered how, back in 1992, she was in his office applying for a Magistrate Judge position and how he wanted to assure that she was a solitary person. Later, she highlighted Judge Acosta's strength and remarkable skills in presiding over the Dupont Plaza litigation.

Hon. Justo Arenas read a message sent by Hon. Juan R. Torruella which detailed how Judge Acosta was a solid family man and how he enjoyed playing tennis. Hon. Carmen C. Cerezo's words were poetical and delicate and alluded to how we were to remember Judge Acosta. Hon. José A. Fusté evoked Judge Acosta's last moments and how he affronted them with bravery. Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpí (via video conference) expressed how he grew up taking documents to Judge Acosta's office, the many lunches they had together and how he was finally honored when the FBA-PR Chapter was named after him. Hon. Daniel R. Dominguez elocution was focused on Judge Acosta's earlier years in war. He read some of Judge Acosta's accounts on war experience and stressed how such experiences



*Hon. Raymond L. Acosta (left) with a fellow seaman, Utah Beach, June 1944.*

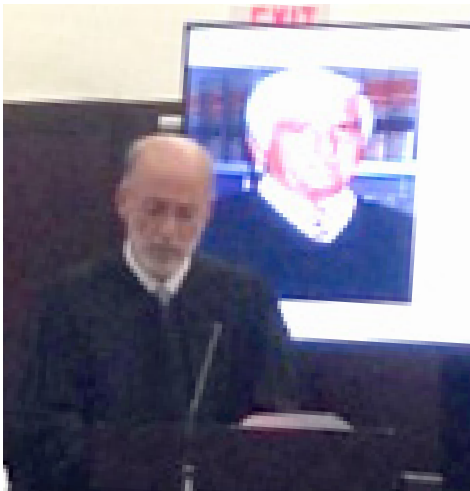
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*Upper row (L-R): Hon. Jay A. García Gregory, Hon. Carmen Consuelo Cerezo, Hon. Aida M. Delgado Colón, Hon. José A. Fusté. Lower row (L-R): Hon. Salvador E. Casellas, Hon. Pedro A. Delgado, Hon. Francisco Besosa, Hon. Juan M. Pérez Giménez, Hon. Daniel R. Domínguez.*



Back (Far Right): Marie Hatcher. Front (L-R): Hon. Liana Fiot Matta, Hon. Rafael L. Martínez Torres, Hon. Roberto Feliberti Cintrón, Hon. Maite D. Oronoz Rodríguez.



Hon. Justo Arenas, U.S. Magistrate Judge



Richard Graffam, Esq., former Law Clerk to Hon. Raymond L. Acosta.

*Continued from previous page*

shaped him into a sensible, passionate and courageous individual. Hon. Justo Arenas remembered how Judge Acosta was a measured classy man and how their friendship was very valuable.

Antonio R. Bazán, Esq. former prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney’s Office, delighted all in attendance with an emotive musical interlude, in which he played “Playera” by Pablo de Sarasate in violin. The musical interlude was followed by remarks by Roberto A. Cámara Fuertes, Esq., president of the Federal Bar Association, Hon. Raymond L. Acosta P.R. Chapter, and Richard Graffam, Esq., former law clerk to Judge Acosta. Mr. Cámara expressed that he was proud to be part of the Board that changed the name of the Chapter to honor Judge Acosta and elaborated on how Judge Acosta was a distinguished jurist. Finally, Mr. Graffam acknowledged Judge Acosta’s love of life, his passion, humility and his love for music, particularly that of composer Irving Berlin.

As the ceremony was adjourned, “God Bless America” played and everyone gathered outside the courtroom to enjoy great conversation and food and beverages.

# JUDGE JUAN R. TORRUELLA'S WORDS IN MEMORY OF JUDGE RAYMOND L. ACOSTA



I regret that I am not able to be present at this well-deserved tribute to the Honorable Raymond Acosta, but unfortunately that has to be, and I can only beg Ray's forgiveness, and in particular, that of Marie and his children, and assure them that my absence is not from a lack of regard for his memory.

Although the term 'honorable' is a matter of protocol used in referring to judges, when applied to Ray, this is more than just a required title, for if ever there was someone to whom this appellation is fitting and deserving, it was with regards to the Honorable Raymond Acosta, a man whose impeccable life, from his participation as a seventeen year old radioman on the shores of Normandy during World War II's longest day, through his continued years of service to his country

ALTHOUGH WE ALL MUST  
LEAVE THESE SHORES AT  
SOME POINT, IT IS THE  
MEMORY AND LOVE OF OUR  
FAMILIES THAT MAKES US  
IMMORTAL.

as a special agent of the FBI, while as U.S. Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, and during his tenure as a Judge of this Court, with brief stints in private practice in between, no one can in truth question but that all his endeavors were beyond reproach and deserving the highest personal and professional commendation. Ray was a true, card carrying member of the greatest generation. In this recount I cannot

fail to mention something that is forgotten and sidestepped in this rubble of present day Puerto Rican politics, and it is Ray's incalculable and invaluable contribution, back in the days when he was in private practice, to the statehood movement as a founder of the Statehood 51 Organization, the precursor of today's statehood's force.

All these laudations and accolades apart, which knowing Ray would embarrass him, I address you today as someone who had a life-long friendship with Ray, and with whom both my wife Judy and I shares, not only during our judicial careers, but as far back as when he first came to Puerto Rico in the early 60's, and which included our whole families when we lived in back to back addresses in the Condado,



and actually even before that, when he used to come to the Hilton to play tennis, a lifelong pursuit during which he periodically but consistently beat Pérez Giménez. In recent years, I had seen less of Ray, as his interests centered more in South Carolina, but that did not mean I did not miss his quiet, unassuming and pleasant ways, and his unerring perception of what things were wrong with Puerto Rico and needed to be fixed.

Perhaps more important than all I can and have said about Ray, was his standing as a solid family man, as a husband and as a father, for without his support and footing, all else is hollow and lacking in purpose. His love for Marie and their children was always central to his life, and this love was fully reciprocated by them. Although we all must leave these shores at some point, it is the memory and love of our families that makes us immortal. Thus Ray passes on into immortality.

I shall personally miss you Ray. We shall all miss you, the Honorable Raymond L. Acosta.

# REMARKS BY HON. CARMEN CONSUELO CEREZO

Ray's words to family and friends, just days before his passing, were a lesson in humility and valor. He knew his life on earth was ending and he was finding his way back to eternal life.

Ray, your words, piercing as they were, touched me as a cool breeze. Here we are, in spring and drought, remembering you as the breeze that soothed and moved along. Neither

cases nor decisions, affirmed or reversed, serve to remember you today.

Only his good nature, faith and the seeds sowed with his own hands are forever Ray: to his family, friends, but above all, before God to whom Ray returned in peace, smiling with twinkling eyes.



*(L-R) Hon. José A. Fusté, Hon. Francisco Besosa, Hon. Raymond L. Acosta, Hon. Daniel Domínguez, and Hon. Gustavo Gelpí*



*(L-R) Hon. Aida M. Delgado Colón, Hon. José A. Fusté, Hon. Francisco Besosa, Hon. Raymond L. Acosta, Hon. Daniel Domínguez, Hon. Gustavo Gelpí, and Hon. Jaime Pieras, Jr.*

# REMARKS BY CHIEF JUDGE AIDA M. DELGADO-COLÓN



Judge Acosta, our colleague and friend, peacefully passed away on December 23, 2014, at the tender age of 89. Appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the seat vacated by Judge José Toledo, he served for almost 28 years (from 1982 to 2010) on this Bench. His tenure as a judge was preceded by a vast and varied experience: he served with the U.S. Navy at the D-Day Invasion of Normandy; as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation; as an Assistant U.S. Attorney; and, as a private practitioner. And, of course, on a lighter note, he was an avid tennis player. Like the saying goes, “Life is like a game of tennis: the player who serves well, seldom loses.” And we all know that serving well, in all undertakings, is something that Judge Acosta indeed mastered.

Having mentioned this, I have to say that Judge Acosta’s many professional accomplishments will never outshine his quiet dignity and warmth. I believe that Judge Acosta would like to be remembered as a man whose character can be judged by how he treated others, because how you treat others is who you are. Judge Acosta was a man who treated others right, not because he expected anything in return but because this is his essence—the substance he was made of.

In 1992—I remember having visited him to share with him my intentions of applying for a Magistrate Judge’s position.

After 5–10 minutes of conversation, through which he was encouraging and supportive; he only requested that if so appointed: to ensure that through my actions I was always to promote solidarity, good communication and collegiality among the members of the Bench and the integrity of the Court.

A fine man and a great human being by all accounts, Judge Acosta always, in the words of Walt Whitman, “kept his face toward the sunshine so that the shadows fell behind him.” Optimism, character, intelligence, and goodness, all came together in Judge Acosta, who was able to make his life a realization of possibilities, an affirmation of his ability to make things happen in all endeavors he undertook: from his student days at Princeton University

and Rutgers Law School to presiding over the Dupont Plaza Hotel fire litigation—one of the largest and most complex mass disaster litigations in United States history and which sparked unprecedented case management techniques—a monumental task which Judge Acosta undertook flawlessly.

At the eve of the eternal sunset, Judge Acosta never turned his face from the sun when he sent this email: “I feel very fortunate to have lived a full life and to have shared it with so many wonderful people along the way. I wish you all fellow travelers a good and rewarding journey.” I think we all, when receiving this message—were truly saddened. But it was this message, so simple and yet so revealing, that

JUDGE ACOSTA ALWAYS,  
IN THE WORDS OF WALT  
WHITMAN, “KEPT HIS FACE  
TOWARD THE SUNSHINE SO  
THAT THE SHADOWS FELL  
BEHIND HIM.”

made my sense of admiration of Judge Ray Acosta deepen.

This last message, so succinct, inextricably conveys his humbleness, inner peace, strength and courage. A man that during difficult times—counted his blessings and prepared for a new journey.

In the year 2006—he stood by us—the newly appointed judges by then.

In 2014 when he retired—we celebrated and applauded his career, his achievements, his life and friendship.

May Judge Acosta’s remarkable penchant for life and for learning in and outside the courtroom serve as an inspiration to many generations of attorneys and judges. And may we all strive to emulate Judge Acosta’s example who taught us that great things can be achieved with humility and integrity. Judge Acosta—for that—My Gratitude and Admiration..

Thank You.

# REMARKS BY ROBERTO A. CÁMARA FUERTES, ESQ. PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION, HON. RAYMOND L. ACOSTA PUERTO RICO CHAPTER



Chief Judge, District and Senior Court Judges, Magistrate Judges, Clerk of the Court, Chief Justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court and Associate Justices, officers of the Court and members of the Bar, family members and friends of the Judge Raymond L. Acosta.

My name is Roberto A. Cámara-Fuertes, and I am the President of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. It is a privilege to address all of you on behalf of the Chapter, aptly and honorably named Honorable Raymond L. Acosta, Puerto Rico Chapter. I am happy to say that I was a member of the Board of Directors that unanimously voted in favor of changing the name of our chapter in honor of Judge Acosta.

As I was preparing my remarks today, I revisited the June 2008 issue of the *Federal Lawyer*, the National Publication of Federal Bar Association. In that issue, his former law clerk and trusted friend, Richard Graffam, wrote a profile on the Judge. Without a doubt, the story of the life and career of Judge Acosta is remarkable: from surviving the Operation Tiger slaughter in the theatre of the Second World War, to landing on Omaha Beach, to chance encounters with Winston Churchill, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, J. Edgar Hoover and, at Princeton, even Albert Einstein.

His remarkable life took him all over the world, but once established in Puerto Rico, Judge Acosta founded—together with two other government attorneys—the predecessor of the Chapter I preside today which was initially called the “Antilles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.” After the Chapter’s foundation, Judge Acosta was elected as the first President. Since then, the Chapter has been blessed with many distinguished members and supporters, thanks to the initiative of Judge Acosta.

Indeed, since its foundation in 1967, the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association has hosted multiple seminars, luncheons, and activities... and has offered hundreds, and I dare say thousands, of hours of continued legal education to federal practitioners.

Again, it is an Honor for our Chapter to bear the name of such a brave, loyal, and hardworking man and a distinguished jurist.

We hope that the work of our Chapter and continued support to the federal judiciary, our judges, magistrates, clerks and the federal practice have made Judge Acosta as proud as the Chapter is in bearing his name.

Thank you.

# MARITIME LAW IN THE U.S. AND PUERTO RICO: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

On March 3, 2015, the FBA, Hon. Raymond L. Acosta P.R. Chapter, held a Seminar on Maritime Law with distinguished panelists Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpí, Hon. José A. Fusté, Hon. Silvia Carreño, Mr. Howard McPherson (Cronin Fried Sekiya Kekina & Fairbanks, Honolulu, HI)

and Michael Sturley (University of Texas at Austin School of Law). The seminar focused on practical considerations in the litigation of an admiralty case from a judge's perspective while offering a primer of the most recent court decisions and their applicability to Puerto

Rico. Speakers, M. Sturley, Howard McPherson discussed recent decisions of interest in US maritime Law as well as significant lower court decisions related to the Carmack Amendment and the Rescue Doctrine. Judge Gustavo Gelpí joined M. Sturley and Howard McPherson in a discussion of caselaw in the field of Maritime Law in Puerto Rico, while Judge José A. Fusté discussed the Local Admiralty Rules of the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico as well as the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Cases of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure. Also, Hon. Silvia Carreño Coll addressed the interplay between Maritime Law and various environmental issues. In sum, the Seminar was a success and accounted for 3 CLE hours approved by the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. Thanks to José L. Ramírez-Coll for making this seminar possible.

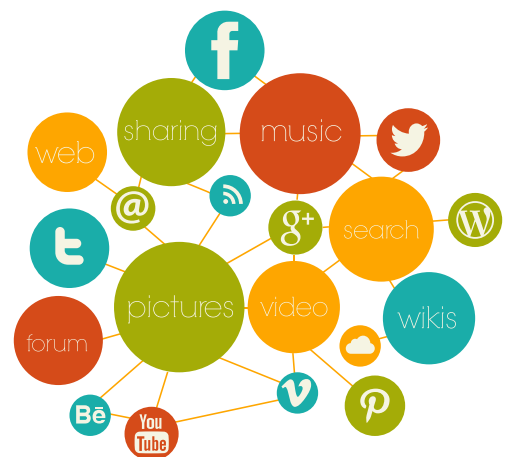


## SEMINAR ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Alejandro Mercado, Esq.

On April 30, 2015, the Hon. Raymond L. Acosta P.R. Chapter of the FBA held a seminar on the topic of management of electronic information in social media. Alejandro Mercado, Esq., served as the speaker for this seminar, which was approved by the Puerto Rico Supreme Court for 4 CLE credits. Mr. Mercado discussed the changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rules of Evidence regarding information stored electronically and discussed the various approaches utilized by the courts in granting access to such information, while stressing the best practices during discovery procedures. The seminar was a success thanks to the efforts of María Ligia Giraldez, Esq.



## CONFERENCE ON HEALTHCARE FRAUD

The University of Puerto Rico School of Law Student Chapter of the FBA hosted a conference on Healthcare Fraud as part of a series of conferences on White Collar Crimes organized between 2014 and 2015. Héctor Ramírez-Carbo, Esq., Chief of Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, and José Soto, Special Agent of the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States served as speakers.



Above: Héctor Ramírez Carbo, Esq. and Mr. José Soto with student members of the University of Puerto Rico School of Law.

Left: Héctor Ramírez-Carbo, Esq., Chief of Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, and José Soto, Special Agent of the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States

## CONFERENCE ON CYBER CRIMES

On March 16, 2015, the Student Chapter of the University of Puerto Rico School of Law of the FBA hosted a conference on "Cyber Crimes: The New Frontier of Criminal Law." Vivian Neptune, Dean of the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, Rafael Sosa, Director of the Cyber Crimes Section of the Department of Justice, and member of the House of Representatives of Puerto Rico, Manuel Natal Albelo (who was coauthor of the *Ley Contra la Venganza Pornográfica de Puerto Rico*) served as panelists for the event.



Vivian Neptune, Esq, Hon. Manuel Natal Albelo and Rafael Sosa, Esq. joined by student members of the University of Puerto Rico School of Law.

# BROWN BAG LUNCH WITH HON. JOSÉ A. FUSTÉ



*Joseph Feldstein, Esq., addresses all in attendance.*

On February 20, 2015, the Hon. Raymond L. Acosta P.R. Chapter and its Young Lawyers Division hosted a Brown Bag Lunch with the Hon. José A. Fusté, U.S. District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, who provided his advice for young lawyers. He was joined by Hon. Francisco Besosa and Angel J. Valencia of the Department of Justice.



*Hon. José A. Fusté*



*Hon. Francisco Besosa*



*Brown bag attendees listen attentively.*

# BROWN BAG LUNCH ON ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS LAW

On March 27, 2015, the Young Lawyers Division of the Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association held a Brown Bag Lunch with Alfredo Castellanos, Esq., founding member of the Castellanos Law Group, on the topic of Entertainment and Sports Law at the Interamerican University School of Law. Mr. Castellanos was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Federal Bar Association on 2014 at the Young Lawyers Division's Thurgood A. Marshall Moot Court Competition. He has been recognized by the Young Lawyers Division in multiple occasions for his outstanding commitment to the Thurgood A. Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition of the FBA and he is a Life Fellow of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Special thanks to Joseph Feldstein, Esq. for making this event possible.



# FBA NEWS: DID YOU KNOW?

*Did you know?* Our very own Katherine González-Valentín serves the FBA at National Level as an elected director to the Board of Directors!



Katherine has been an active FBA member since 1999 and was a member of the Board of the Puerto Rico Chapter between 2004-2011, where she served as Director (2004-2006), Vice President (2006-2008), President Elect (2008-09), President (2009-10) and Immediate Past President (2010-11). She was also the

Editor in Chief of the Chapter's award-winning newsletter and served as Vice President for the First Circuit. She is also a Fellow of the Foundation of Federal Bar Association.

As you already may know, Katherine has focused her practice on different areas of labor and employment law including employment contracts, workplace policies and management training, discrimination, defamation, wages and hours, constitutional rights, employment privacy, wrongful discharge, Internet Law and appellate practice both in state and federal court. Katherine is also a frequent lecturer on Labor, Employment and civil procedure topics. She is admitted to practice in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and the Eastern District of Texas, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal, First and Ninth Circuits and the Supreme Court of the United States.

# DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS FROM FBA NATIONAL!



“One out of every three lawyers in the United States is a woman; however, a recent study shows that 11 percent of the country's largest law firms have no women on their governing committees.

Building on last year's overwhelming success, the FBA's Women in the Law Conference will again provide a forum to discuss the advancement of women as legal practitioners and an empowering environment to explore current issues from a number of perspectives.

Before the conversation begins, join speakers and attendees for a networking reception on June 4. Invest in your future and make plans to attend this essential conference for practitioners aiming to thrive in and influence today's legal climate!

For more information, go to: <http://www.fedbar.org/Education/Calendar-CLE-events/2015-Women-in-the-Law-Conference.aspx>”

## WATCH OUT FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

### Immigration Law Brown Bag Lunch

hosted by the Young Lawyers Division

Date to be announced

### The Court Speaks Conference

September 4, 2015

### About the Clerk

Date to be announced


# FBA's FEDERAL BAR REVIEW COURSE

The United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico offers a Federal Bar Examination twice a year, typically during the first Saturday of April and the first Saturday of October or November.

Each year, twice a year, the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association administers an in-person preparatory course for the Bar Exam. The FBA's course is composed of eight sessions, each dealing with one of the eight topics of inquiry of the exam (Evidence, Federal Civil Procedure, Federal Criminal Procedure, Bankruptcy, Appellate Procedure, Local Rules, Ethics, Federal Jurisdiction). The classes are scheduled twice a week on Mondays to Thursdays and they start at 7:00 pm until 10:00 pm. The classes are taught by seasoned federal practitioners, each with abundant hands-on experience in their respective areas of practice.

For more information about the exam, go to <http://www.prd.uscourts.gov/?q=federal-bar-examination-information>.

For more information about our Review Course or to enroll, please contact Mrs. Adriana aAcevedo Colón. Telephone: 787-273-8300; Fax 787-273-8371; Email: [acevedo@calopsc.com](mailto:acevedo@calopsc.com)



*United States District Court  
for the District of Puerto Rico*

Hon. Aida M. Delgado-Colón, Chief Judge  
Frances Ríos de Morán, Esq., Clerk of Court

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## Federal Bar Examination Information

### Public Notice

The **FEDERAL BAR EXAMINATION** will be offered on **Saturday, April 18, 2015** from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico School of Law, Tres Monjitas Industrial Park, 170 Federico Costa St., Hato Rey, PR 00918-1303. [Click here](#) for a map.

The examination consists of eight (8) separate subject areas to be tested: \*

Subject Area	Percentage	Questions
Federal Civil Procedure	16%	8
Federal Evidence	16%	8
Federal Jurisdiction and Venue	16%	8
Federal Criminal Procedure <i>(Includes the subject of Sentencing Guidelines. Applicants must be familiar with the ruling in <u>United States v. Booker</u>, 543 U.S. 220, 125 S.Ct. 738, 160 L.Ed.2d 621(2005) and progeny from the 1st Circuit Court of Appeals).</i>	12%	6
Local Rules	12%	6
Federal Appellate Procedure	10%	5
Bankruptcy, including the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 and the Bankruptcy Rules.	10%	5
Ethics	8%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>50</b>

\* **Questions regarding rules amended after December 1, 2014, will not be included in the April 18, 2015, examination.**

The essay question is mandatory as it is designed to assess the candidates' proficiency in English --ability to read, write and understand the English language-- to satisfy the requirement of effective assistance of counsel to their clients under the Sixth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Regardless of the result in the multiple choice part of the examination, applicants who do not answer the essay question will receive a grade of "fail".

Attorneys who wish to take the examination must file an **Application Form (please click here)** (Acrobat Reader Required) or an **online Application Form (please click here)** with the Clerk of Court (150 Carlos Chardón Street, Federal Building, Office 150, San Juan, P.R. 00918-1767), and:

- Submit with the application, an original certificate of good standing (not more than six months) issued by the Puerto Rico Supreme Court, the highest court of any state of the Union, the District of Columbia, the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Include a non-refundable \$100.00 fee payable to "Clerk, U.S. District Court" in the form of check, money order, or, if in person, in cash or credit card. The fee will be credited towards the admission fee.

Application	Deadline to Submit Application, Documents, and Fee
<b>In Person</b>	<b>March 27, 2015 at 4:45 PM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Original certificate of good standing</li> <li>• \$100 non-refundable fee</li> </ul>
<b>By Mail</b>	<b>March 13, 2015 Postmark</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application</li> <li>• Original certificate of good standing</li> <li>• \$100 non-refundable fee</li> </ul>
<b>Online</b>	<b>March 13, 2015 Postmark (by mail)</b>

# INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?



The Federal Bar Association is the premier professional association for judges and lawyers involved in federal practice before the US District Court and the federal agencies. With over 16,000 members in more than 80 local chapters, it is unequalled in its relationship with the Federal Judiciary.

Puerto Rico is the third largest chapter in the national organization and has repeatedly won recognition for being one of the best chapters in the Nation. This shows the level of commitment to serve our members with educational seminars, social activities with the members of the Federal

Bar, civic and educational activities for the general public, and by conveying the concerns of our membership to the judges and the Clerk's office.

Membership is open to any person admitted to the practice of law before a federal court or a court of record in any of the several states, commonwealths, territories, or possessions of the U.S., or in the District of Columbia, provided you have been an officer or employee of the United States or the District of Columbia, you have a substantial interest or participate in the area of federal law, or you are a law student not admitted to practice.

There are two ways of joining our organization. First, you can fill out a form online, or you can print the application form and mail it. Don't wait a minute longer, visit us at [www.federalbar.org](http://www.federalbar.org) and JOIN NOW!

## Federal Bar Association Annual Meeting and Convention

September 10-12, 2015  
Salt Lake City



Don't forget to register for this year's Annual Meeting and Convention which will be held September 10 through September 12 in Salt Lake City, UT.

Reservations must be made by August 7, 2015.



# HELP SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION!



The Foundation of the Federal Bar Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization chartered by Congress in 1954, that fosters improvements in the practice of federal law by supporting legal research and education. It provides funding to support community service projects and pro bono activities, supports judicial research and education and even provides scholarships to son or daughters of FBA members.

To donate to the Foundation, you can make an online donation using a credit card or you can mail a check to

Foundation of the Federal Bar Association  
1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444  
Arlington, VA 22201

For more information go to <http://www.fedbar.org/Foundation>.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS FROM THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION



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