



# Federal Bar Association

## FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION (FBA) – LAW STUDENT DIVISION (LSD)

### JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2024 – 3:05 PM EST

- Zoom -

#### Roll Call

Jen Tomchak (Chair) - **Present**  
Brendan Mohan (Student Chair) - **Present**  
Meg Glasmann (Student Treasurer) - **Present**  
Shane Hursh (Student Secretary) - **Present**  
Eyal Schwartz (1st Cir.) - **Present**  
Mary Johnson (2nd Cir.) - **Present**  
Negin Nader Bazrafkan (2nd Cir.) – Absent  
Eli Yemzow (3rd Cir.) - Excused  
Caleb Morris (4th Cir.) - **Present**  
Janell Thompson (5th Cir.) – Absent  
De’Naesha Mitchell (5th Cir.) - Absent  
Patricia (Pati) Limon de Rodriguez (5th Cir.) - Excused  
Caitlin Harrington (6th Cir.) - **Present**  
Derrick Foster Ransom II (6th Cir.) - Excused  
Malcolm Deisz (7th Cir.) - **Present**  
Brandy Johnson (8th Cir.) – Excused  
Taylor Brown (8th Cir.) - Present  
Andrew Fender (10th Cir.) - **Present**  
Maddie Bacon (10th Cir.) - **Present**  
Briana Harris (11th Cir.) - Excused  
Kijana Mitchell (11th Cir.) - **Present**  
Colleen Donald (11th Cir.) - Present  
Christina Hough (At Large/Ex Officio) - Excused  
Mitch Jacob (At Large/Ex Officio) - OUT  
Kevin Maxim (Ex Officio) - **Present**  
Anna Howard (Ex Officio) - **Present**  
Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member) – **Present**  
Dean Arturo Thompson (Ex Officio/Professional Member) - Absent  
Joseph Feldstein (Ex Officio/Professional Member) - Absent  
Mike McCarthy (Staff Liaison) - Excused  
Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison) – **Present**

**\*Quorum Present**

## **JANURARY MEETING**

### **Welcome**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season!

Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison)

We have gone from 16 to 38 FBA Student Chapters!

### **December Meeting Minutes**

Brendan Mohan (Student Chair)

I move to approve the corrected November Meeting minutes.

Patrick

Seconded.

All

Approved.

**- December Meeting Minutes Approved -**

### **\*Programing Committee**

Malcolm Deisz (7th Cir.)

Programing Meeting is setting up Bar Preparation Efforts. We have some board members here that recently passed the bar exam. Getting their feedback would be great. Blending old and new perspectives would be great! We are also still looking at a Health Law event.

Meg Glassman (Student Treasurer)

Still working with Health Law on the potential event. We should also look at other Sections. I would love to assist with Bar Preparation Efforts.

Malcolm Deisz (7th Cir.)

With the Liasson Reports running now – students should reach out to their Section about different collaborative events.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Meg Glasmann (Student Treasurer)

We have \$5,000.00 for the upcoming school year meant to primarily cover officer travels to the National Convention and Leadership Summit. We have also requested funding for food at events. We were at around \$4,000.00 spent last year.

### **Events Calendar**

Maddie Bacon (10 Cir.) & Shane Hursh (Student Secretary)

Noting to report.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

I will send out the Calendar draft. It'll take about an hour to go over and then 10 minutes to update a week. We can set up a time to get that running soon.

### **Upcoming Events**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

The recent events that will be sent to the calendar:

- (1) **Privacy Law Panel** – Co-Sponsored by LSD!
- (2) **Career With the FBI Panel** – Guide into a career in the FBI. Really good idea to give an idea of what needs to be done to enter such a career. Should be very interesting!
- (3) **Rising Professional Symposium** – In Phoenix, Arizona. Younger lawyers and law students. “What We Wish We Knew in Law School” Panel. Keynote Speaker. Networking Hour. Judicial Reception at Federal Courthouse.
- (4) **Federal Appellate Panel** – What is needed to establish a federal appellate practice. Open to law students
- (5) **Mid-Year Showcase** – Sending out Standardized Questionnaire to have Panel. Will be at the Leadership Summit. Highlights local events that local chapters have put on with law student chapters.

Kevin Maxim (Ex Officio)

Some questions would be whether you got your local chapter involved in events, speakers, budget, attendance, advice, etc.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

We will reach out to see if local chapters are interested and would attend the summit. We have one list of chapters that we have not reached out to yet, and another list of six chapters that we have been in contact with before about events. Reach out to your local chapters if you are aware of any specific events. This panel will hopefully provide other chapters with ideas for law student engagement, along with highlighting and applauding local chapters.

### **Local Chapters**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

We sent out a list of local chapter leaders. Please reach out monthly if you have not already!

### **Student Membership Reports**

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

We have been auditing the student chapter membership that are leading to some of the inaccuracies in our student membership. We have some FBA Student Chapters where the Student Presidents have a list of students that still needs to sign up for the FBA LSD. This is important because this is how we keep in touch with law students as they become attorneys. We will need

to send letters to FBA Student Presidents asking for rosters and other crucial information. This also reminds people that there must be a step where the national membership is joined. I have sent out a draft of a letter that would go out to student chapters.

Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison)

We will make sure that these letters and rosters are received back.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

We should also let them know what the roster we have is so that it is well received, and they understand the student members that they would need to sign up.

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

National has said that they would sign up FBA Student Members on those rosters that had not registered with FBA LSD yet.

Brendan Mohan (Student Chair)

I have been planning an FBA Student President National meeting. This would also assist with correcting these lapses in membership registration.

Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison)

I think that it would be beneficial to give them an opportunity to realize that they are not actually signed up, correct it themselves, and then sign them up if they have not done so after that.

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

Are we able to cross-reference registered FBA law students with the law school that they attend?

Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison)

We are able to do that but there may be some errors due to students not updating their FBA information.

Andrew Fender (10th Cir.)

I'm the FBA Student President at the University of Utah School of Law. I have a roster and I'm looking at the contact information that we require. There may be more information on the National FBA side than what is required on the local Student Chapter side.

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

Great point. We will also want to make sure that students are giving their personal email so that we are not losing them when they stop using their law school email after graduation. The FBA Student President National Meeting should be very beneficial.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

It sounds like we have a great action plan.

## **Law School to Practice Policy Revision**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

The other action point that I wanted to get to today was the law school to practice policy revision. Thank you for all of your suggestions in the email chain.

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

The computer system was requiring that new lawyers are registered to the bar rather than just passing the bar. This was dropping some of the students that we were targeting out. Adjusting this would require a constitutional amendment that would need to be voted on by the FBA Board of Directors. The concept is a very simple change and would make a big difference. Nationals is holding off on the drops until the problem is addressed.

Anna Howard (Ex Officio)

I wanted to fix a different but related problem in the same amendment. There is an issue with eligible students just missing out on the ability to sign up.

Dina Miller (Ex Officio/Professional Member)

I think that there may be an issue with that if they were not previously student members.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

This is going to be good for a broader discussion with the FBA Board of Directors.

## **Committee Reports** **Programming Committee**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

Pati is not here but she circulated a list of updates. She will be working on an Instagram and Facebook. She would like to see if any other FBA LSD Board Members would like to join.

Taylor Brown (8th Cir.)

I wanted to ask people to send us anything unique so that we can post it!

## **Networking Committee**

Brendan Mohan (Student Chair)

We were not able to meet due to the holidays. I'm working on the FBA Student Chapter Presidents as well as other materials that we will continue with in our next committee meeting and will hopefully be able to update on in the next FBA LSD Board Meeting. We're looking at doing it in the spring semester. There have been talks about doing it around the Leadership Summit. It might be more practical to do it after.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

It might also be a good idea to have FBA Student Chapter President-Elects there as well since there are elections coming up. Also, the second meeting could be in August or September.

Law to Practice Committee

Meg Glasmann (Student Treasurer)

We are starting with the materials that go over the job application process for different associate positions and clerkships. We will be circulating them in order to get student feedback and we will also be circulating on social media.

Membership Committee

Maddie Bacon (10th Cir.)

Nothing to report at this time.

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

We will be working on getting student feedback from both the old system and new system.

**Conclusion**

Jen Tomchak (Chair)

Due to time, we will forgo Liaison Reports and Updates to the next meeting. Do we have a Motion to Adjourn?

Brendan Mohan (Student Chair)

Moved.

Taylor Brown (8th Cir.)

Second

All

Yay.

**- Meeting Adjourned -**