



Federal Bar Association

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

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2025, 3:00 PM EST

- Zoom –

Roll Call

Arturo Thompson (Chair) - **Present**

Vice Chair Vacant – Not Available

Caleb Morris (Student Chair) - **Present**

De’Naesha Mitchell (Secretary) - Absent

Shane Hursh (Treasurer) - **Present**

Jen Tomchak (Immediate Past Chair) - **A Present**

Brendan Mohan (Immediate Past Student Chair) - **Present**

Zeno Temple (1st Cir.) - **Present**

Mary Johnson (2nd Cir.) - Absent

Pacika Guerra (2nd Cir.) - Absent

Charlotte Thompson (3rd Cir.) - Absent

Emily Norris (4th Cir.) - **Present**

Trevor Reynolds (4th Cir.) - Absent

Patricia (Pati) Limon deRodriguez (5th Cir.) - **Present**

Rachel Williamson Brecker (6th Cir.) - **Present**

Derrick Foster Ransom (6th Cir.) - **Present**

Malcolm Deisz (7th Cir.) - Absent

Patience McHenry (8th Cir.) - Absent

Taylor Brown (8th Cir.) - Absent

Elle Peterson (9th Cir.) - Absent

Andrew Fender (10th Cir.) - Absent

Maddie Bacon (10th Cir.) - **Present**

Kijana Mitchell (11th Cir.) - **Present**

Anthony Phan (DC Cir.) - **Present**

Makena Rauch (DC Cir.) - **Present**

Christina Hough (At Large/ Ex Officio Student Member) - **Present**

Kevin Maxim (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member) - **Present**

Anna Howard (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member) - Absent

Dina Miller (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member) - **Present**

Hon. Beth Bloom (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member) - **Present**

Hon. Robin Feder (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member) - **Present**

Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison) - **Present**

JANUARY MEETING

Welcome

Opening Remarks:

Arturo Thompson (Chair)

- Treasurer Report: informed everyone that we have not spent money.

Action Items

- Law Student Leadership Challenge- deadline is the 15th of January. Link is in the agenda if needed.
- Headshots and Bios for FBA website, Daniel indicated that we are almost up to date on having everyone's headshots on the website.
- Brendan Mohan (Immediate Past Student Chair) finished two publications and was selected to speak in Akron! He also got engaged in London during the holidays!
- Emily Norris (4th Cir.) – indicated that her committee assignments coincide with something for school so she is not able to attend. Arturo will get with Ms. Norris to resolve the conflicts.
- Daniel Hamilton (Staff Liaison)– asked the board to start planning for the Leadership Summit (March 27 to March 29). Within the summit will encompass a three-day prong event, such as Capitol Hill Day. Registration will be launched soon. Another event is the Moot Court event, Bailiffs are needed along with other volunteer needs, if anyone is available. Get with Daniel if anyone is interested in participating, or volunteering.
- Arturo also encouraged the board to come to the Leadership Summit and spoke about Capitol Hill Day and what a great way to walk the halls of Congress and speak to your representatives and look at the functionality of American democracy. He also stated that he is thinking about doing another ad hoc happy hour around the leadership summit.

Committee Reports

Programming Committee Report

Kijana Mitchell (11th Cir.)

Christina Hough (At Large/ Ex Officio Student Member)

- Upcoming Panels:
 - “Neurodivergent’s in Law” Panel is confirmed for March 25th at 11 AM.
 - Christina will be serving on the panel along with Troy Doucet, the co-founder for AI. Law. Also, Stella Gerson, staff attorney with the San Diego Volunteer lawyer program, will be on the panel along with Dean Thompson.
 - When I Grow Up" Panel, Kijana informed the board that she is still working on the panel and will circle back on that information with the Board.

Law Student Engagement Committee Report

Caleb Morris (Student Chair)

- Would like an hour event sometime during the Leadership summit or outside of it where the law students can get together and talk about organization structure, connections with the local chapter
 - Arturo Thompson (Chair) is on board and will get with Mr. Morris

Membership Committee Report

Maddie Bacon (10th Cir.)

- Currently added 50 new members to the law student division. Will draft a letter to the other membership committee members to get to know the new members.

Publications/ Publicity Committee Report

Patricia (Pati) Limon deRodriguez (5th Cir.)

- Reminding the board to send the bios and photos to Daniel in order to get posted.
- Conducting an ongoing schedule on posting to social media

Judicial Intern Academy Committee Report

Caleb Morris (Student Chair)

- Informed the board that they are in progress with drafting promotion materials to bring to the JIA Committee.
- Brennan will circulate the information to the law schools and record responses.
- Zeno is preparing an outline for the preapplication deadline for the webinar for interested students.
- Andrew is working on drafting an outline for one of the summer programming meetings discussed by Judge Bloom in the last meeting.

Leadership Planning Committee Report

Arturo Thompson (Chair)

- In the works on having additional programming for a longer term for law students and younger attorneys.
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Law School to Practice Committee Report

Dina Miller (At Large/ Ex Officio Professional Member)

- Will get together later in January to start the process on formalizing the STOL program that was started last year.

Liaison Updates

Brendan Mohan (Immediate Past Student Chair)

- Working with the Civics Division for their yearly Civics Day, helping expand the day into the law schools to spread on the national level.

Patricia (Pati) Limon deRodriguez (5th Cir.)

- Informed the board that she has not heard from her liaison and will get with Arturo on trying to get a response.
- Committee liaisons were urged to share opportunities and foster collaborations.

Miscellaneous:

Caleb Morris (Student Chair)

- Proposed creating a casual virtual student gathering with all the circuit representatives to enhance collaboration and camaraderie.
 - Proposed an icebreaker in the February or March meeting

Jen Tomchak (Immediate Past Chair)

- Currently working on a Bar Study webinar that will be in February.

- MEETING ADJOURNED-