



Federal Bar Association

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

JANUARY 9th, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Via Zoom Called to order at 3:00 PM EST

Roll Call

Arturo Thompson – Chair Present
Daniel Hamilton – Staff Liaison – Present
Hon. Anna Howard – Ex Officio Member – Absent
Hon. Robin Feder – Ex Officio Member – Absent
Dina Miller – Ex Officio Member- Present
Kevin Maxim – Ex Officio Member and President Elect - Present
Makena Rauch – Student Chair – Present
Zeno Temple – LSD/YLD Liaison – Absent
Ahmir Kenyatta – Secretary – Present
Anthony Phan DC Circuit Rep – Absent
Tatiana Sallins DC Circuit Rep – Absent
Pacika Guerra 2nd Circuit Rep - Absent
Donisha Kendrick 3rd Circuit Rep – Present
Emily Norris 4th Circuit Rep – Absent
De’Naesha Mitchell 5th Circuit Rep – Absent
Patricia (Pati) Limon de Rodriguez 5th Circuit Rep – Absent
Gustavo De La Fuente 5th Circuit Rep – Present
Rachel Williamson Brecker 6th Circuit Rep – Present
Avery Anderson 6th Circuit Rep – Present
Sheraya Bernard 7th Circuit Rep – Present
Patience McHenry 8th Circuit Rep – Present
Wendy Jeter 8th Circuit Rep – Present
Christina Hough 9th Circuit Rep – Absent
Andrew Fender 10th Circuit Rep - Absent
Maddie Bacon 10th Circuit Rep – Absent
Chinyere Anunobi 11th Circuit Rep – Present
Hannah Preston 11th Circuit Rep – Absent
Diana Copeland At Large – Absent
Hannah Goff- At Large – Absent
Alexandra Holmen-At Large – Present



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Jen Tomchak – Present

Minutes

Arturo Thompson – Chair

Called the meeting to order welcomed and thanked the LSD Board members for their contribution to the work. Provided gentle reminder that if members need a break or to step away from LSD or any committees they may reach out to Arturo, Daniel, Makena or other LSD Officer.

Arturo reminded this group of the call for applications for student leaders in FY'27. Applications should include 500 words or less statement of interest, resume, and be sent to Arturo and Daniel. Open to LSD members who will be students in FY'27. Roles include Section Chair, Secretary, YLD/LSD Chair, CVP Chair (These roles may vary in name).

Chinyere Anunobi- Mentioned potential email going out regarding leadership applications and also mentioned the same being sent out via social media. Arturo asked Daniel to help lead this early into next week.

Makena Rauch- Mentioned work on mental health and wellbeing work in the near future, discussed liaison assignments including highly active groups needing to have LSD coverage. Makena further mentioned tapping into State FBA Chapters to help engage student members and help prevent fall off rates of student members. Discussed the importance of retention and driving this at the section and division levels as well.

Dina Miller: Discussed pathway from Associate Student Member to Professional Member transition is only about one percent. Dina asked this group to make sure we remind our peers as students to update their information and stay plugged into the FBA. Asked for LSD's commitment in helping to check in with local law students on renewing membership. Reminded this group about one year of free professional membership and the importance of renewing student membership.

Jen Tomchak: Mentioned a potential email to 3L's to update email address before they graduate. Daniel advised that we did not do this this year due to transition to new membership system. Also discussed the potential of school chapters reaching out to student members who did not renew.



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Ahmir Kenyatta: Discussed outreach to all circuit representatives within the next 1-2 weeks to check-in on how Circuit Vice President (CVP) connection and introductions have been going. Ahmir will follow-up with Arturo, Kevin, and other relevant leaders if follow-up is necessary.

Committee Reports

Leadership Planning: Makena and Arturo discussed options including happy hour and social event for LSD. Arturo emphasized the importance of programming during leadership.

Membership: No update at this time. Ahmir advised that this group will reconvene once updated assignments are solidified.

Judicial Intern Academy (JIA): Wendy and Patience updated group on meeting. Briefed the LSD about national strategy on JIA. They are working on a strategy to engage with school administration and FBA chapters on spreading the word about JIA

Programming: No update this meeting.

Sections and Divisions

Anti-Trust: No update this meeting.

Labor & Employment: No update this meeting.

Civil Rights Section: No update this meeting.

Judicial Division: No update this meeting.

ADR: Wendy Met with Ira (ADR Division Chair) in a 1:1 and then in the board meeting. Wendy will promote recruitment for ADR section, hosting an information session on January 20th at 5PM CST. Ira, an Attorney with experience in ADR and the chair, Laurel Stevenson, an attorney and Director within the federal judiciary and a Magistrate will be speaking at this session. Session will aim to provide an overview of ADR. Wendy requested FBA provided Zoom link. Daniel is able to secure link for that meeting. Ahmir will follow up with Daniel on this link.



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Closing Remarks

Arturo Thompson: Request for committee chairs to report out at next months and future meetings; Chairs should be prepared to discuss a quick update about what is occurring in the committee and status of work.

Kevin Maxim: Shared words of encouragement and thanked the group for the work.

Upcoming Events

January 20th, 2026- LSD Informational Zoom Session in Collaboration with ADR Section

March 25, 2026 - Thurgood Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition – Call for Volunteers

March 26th, 2026, - FBA Capitol Hill Day Washington, D.C.

March 27th – March 28th, 2026 – Leadership Summit Arlington, VA

Adjourned at approximately 4:03 PM