

MINNESOTA CHAPTER OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Bar Talk



FRANKEN SPEAKS TO SOLD-OUT CROWD AT FEBRUARY FEDERAL BAR LUNCHEON



Al Franken addresses the February FBA luncheon crowd.

Al Franken, Minnesota's junior United States Senator, appeared before a sold-out crowd at February's Federal Bar Luncheon. With his signature mix of satire and fact, Franken both lauded and panned the legal profession during his remarks. And for those of us who remember him from his "Saturday Night Live" days, he added a dash of Stuart Smalley to spice up the lunch.

As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Franken has taken a particular interest in the nation's federal courts. In his opinion, the

legal system has shifted away from civil liberties over the past five years. He believes much of this shift is driven by what he called the activist United States Supreme Court.

Franken spent the bulk of his time discussing the recent United States Supreme Court decision *Citizens*

United v. Federal Election Commission, 130 S. Ct. 876 (2010). Boldly analyzing the case to a room full of lawyers, Franken noted that the case went against a century of precedent, reversed two previous decisions of the Court, and affected federal and state law. He found the Court's willingness to issue the decision difficult to reconcile with conservative rhetoric about stare decisis and rants against judge-made law. Ultimately, Franken took issue with the case because he believes it will make it harder to get a day in

court. In response to the case, Franken is working towards a "solution" to the decision that would prevent foreign corporations from participating in elections.

Although at times critical of the Supreme Court in his remarks, Franken expressed sympathy towards judges on the district and appellate courts. He noted that many judges are overburdened and need more time to devote to growing caseloads. In an effort to address this problem, Franken is a

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sponsor of the Federal Judgeship Act, introduced in September 2009. The Act would create 63 new judgeships in the courts of appeals and district courts, convert five temporary judgeships to permanent judgeships, and extend one temporary judgeship. The Senate has yet to vote on the Act.

Franken lamented the partisanship in Washington, saying it cripples the legislature. To illustrate his point, Franken noted that from 1919 to 1970, cloture votes were

used only 50 times to prevent a filibuster. By contrast, 42 cloture votes have taken place this Senate term alone.

Franken concluded his remarks by complimenting the work of the Federal Bar Association. In particular he mentioned the FBA's pro bono activities, stating that the FBA fills the gaps in access to the legal system by assisting those without representation and opening the doors to the courts for more Americans. He also applauded the work of the

Innocence Project, which recently celebrated its 250th exoneration. He thanked the lawyers for their involvement in these programs.

Franken was warmly received by the luncheon crowd. His remarks were met with a hearty round of applause.

Erin A. Oglesbay is a litigation associate at Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A. and a member of the FBA Communications Committee. Before entering private practice, Erin clerked for United States District Judge James M. Rosenbaum.

PAST FBA PRESIDENTS HONORED AT RECEPTION

On Thursday, February 4, 2010, nineteen past Presidents of the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association gathered for a reception in their honor. Hosted by Linda Holstein, Vance Opperman, Steve Rau and the Honorable James M. Rosenbaum, the reception was held at the offices of Holstein Law Group in downtown Minneapolis. Attendees enjoyed penthouse views of the new Twins Stadium while celebrating the Chapter's success and the dedication of its members and past Presidents. Founded by the Honorable Miles Lord, the Minnesota Chapter counts among its past Presidents thirty-four practicing attorneys and both state and federal judges in Minnesota.

Current Chapter President Lora Friedemann of Fredrikson & Byron addressed the group. She highlighted the growth of the association, comparing the chapter



Current FBA President Lora Friedemann and the Honorable Michael J. Davis, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, at the reception.

luncheons of the earlier days, which drew up to ten people, to lunches today that regularly attract 150 members or more. She also shared what, in her opinion, have been some of the Chapter's recent accomplishments.

Diversity: The Minnesota Chapter has been a leader in encouraging diversity; it was the first Chapter in the country with a diversity committee. Based on the Chapter's efforts, Minnesota members have been asked to speak at the National FBA's leadership training course and assist other chapters in creating their own diversity initiatives. Friedemann lauded Chief Judge Michael J. Davis (President 2004-2005) and Becky Thorson of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, L.L.P. (President 2005-2006) for their efforts in encouraging diversity in the Minnesota Chapter and other chapters.

Energy: Friedemann called the Chapter "the 'it' bar group in Minnesota," commending the "energy, relevance and fun" that mark the Chapter's events. She also noted that the Chapter is fortunate to have more people wanting to sit

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on the Board than there are seats. The Chapter also grants approximately \$30,000 in annual scholarships and grants.

The Chapter's IP group: The Minnesota Chapter was the first in the country to form an intellectual property group. Friedemann, who practices IP litigation, explained that the group works with the Bench and bar to improve patent practice for both lawyers and judges. This activity includes discussing local rules in patent cases and studying issues relevant to IP litigation, such as the *Markman* process.

The Pro Se Project: Created during the terms of Presidents Rau and Friedemann in collaboration with the federal court, the Pro Se Project provides pro se civil litigants in the District of Minnesota with representation. Judges refer litigants to the Chapter, which has helped approximately 50 pro se litigants obtain representation. Past President Daniel E. Gustafson, who served from 2003 to 2004, has been very active in these placements, providing a significant service to both litigants and judges.

The Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association was chartered in 1940 and has been active since 1962. The Chapter now has more than 900 members throughout the state, representing private practice, the local judiciary, law schools, military branches and government agencies. The Chapter has been recognized as one of the most active and innovative in the country. The Chapter has



Event Hosts: The Honorable James M. Rosenbaum, Linda L. Holstein, Steve Rau, and Vance Opperman

been headed by forty-eight Presidents, including the four hosts of the evening's event:

The Honorable James M. Rosenbaum is a Senior District Judge for the District of Minnesota. He served as Minnesota's United States Attorney from 1981 to 1985, when he was appointed to the U.S. District Court. Judge Rosenbaum frequently writes and speaks about the intersection of law, privacy, and technology. He served as Chapter President from 1992 to 1993.

Linda Holstein served as Chapter President from 1991 to 1992. She is founder and senior partner of Holstein Law Group, PLLC, a downtown Minneapolis firm specializing in complex business litigation and employment law defense. Linda is a trial attorney and business litigator with more than 25 years of experience practicing

in state and federal courts across the country.

Vance Opperman served as FBA President from 1987 to 1988. Vance is currently President and CEO of Key Investment, Inc., a private investment firm based in Minneapolis. Vance practiced law for many years, was President and C.E.O. of West Publishing Company prior to its sale to Thomson Reuters, and serves on the boards of numerous educational and non-profit institutions, as well as heading Thomson Reuters' Audit Committee on its Board of Directors.

Steve Rau, partner at Flynn Gaskins Bennett, LLP, has been an active member of the Minnesota Chapter's Board of Directors since 1999. He chaired and spearheaded the chapter's Pro

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Se Project and the Federal Transport Program, which facilitates contact between women in federal prison and their minor children. Rau was President of the Chapter in 2008-2009 and is currently an Eighth Circuit Vice President.

As current President Lora Friedemann noted, the Chapter has seen many changes over the years, but the dedication of its members and its Presidents has remained constant. Friedemann

concluded her address by thanking the past Presidents of the Chapter for their dedication and service to the Association. "It is because of the people in this room that our chapter is one of the largest and most successful in the country," she said.

Kerri Nelson is a member of the Communications Committee and an attorney at Holstein Law Group, PLLC. Kerri would like to thank Lauren Hayden of Holstein Law Group for her assistance with this article.

SUPREME COURT DECISION FOCUSES ON CAMERAS

The United States Supreme Court's recent decision to stay plans to broadcast a federal civil trial in San Francisco adds another chapter to the controversy about cameras in the courtroom. The decision, *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, 130 S. Ct. 705 (2010), also highlights the role of local policy in determining the scope of media access to the federal courts.

The broadcast and recording of federal criminal proceedings has been prohibited since 1946 by Rule 53 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure. Judicial Conference policy allows broadcast of circuit court hearings, but does not provide for broadcast of civil cases in the district courts. Consistent with Conference policy, in the District of Minnesota, Local Rule 83.2(e) provides that no cameras are permitted in the federal courthouses except for ceremonial procedures. Sound recording devices are allowed inside the courthouse, but must be "inoperative and unobtrusive" in court or in an adja-

cent area. The power of the circuit judicial councils to defy Judicial Conference policy, which occurred in *Hollingsworth*, is an interesting, unresolved issue. Congress has introduced legislation over the years that would provide for camera coverage in the federal courts, but no legislation has been enacted.

Supporters of increased media access argue that allowing cameras would increase transparency in the courts and allow for greater public knowledge about the justice system. But many are strongly opposed to allowing cameras in the courtroom, voicing concerns that cameras would become a distraction and could intimidate some witnesses and jurors.

The California trial would have been the first under a program approved by the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council to experiment with cameras in the circuit's district courts. The trial was to be streamed live to selected federal

courthouses around the country and possibly uploaded to the internet. Northern District of California Chief Judge Vaughn R. Walker announced the broadcast plans after the District's local rules were amended to allow for participation in the program. The rule change was posted on the District's website several days after the court posted notice of the proposed rule.

The defendant-intervenors in the case asked the Supreme Court for a stay of the order to broadcast the trial, claiming that the broadcast would exacerbate the harassment its witnesses had already faced and would compromise their right to a fair and impartial trial. In a *per curiam* opinion joined by five members, the Court acknowledged the controversy over cameras generally but granted the stay "without expressing any view on whether such trials should be broadcast." Rather, the Court

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based its decision on the grounds that the District had amended its local rules without allowing appropriate time for public comment, a probable violation of 28 U.S.C. § 2071 and Rule 83 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

According to the majority, the need to broadcast this particular trial was not sufficiently pressing to justify an “eleventh hour” rule change, especially given the divisiveness of the issue. The Court also noted that the Judicial Conference, which is the policymaking body for the federal courts, has a

longstanding policy discouraging the broadcast and recording of district court proceedings.

In dissent, Justice Breyer pointed out that the District received more than 130,000 public comments after posting notice of the proposed rule change on its website, all but 32 of which favored allowing video access. Breyer also accused the majority of “micromanaging” local court administration and suggested that the applicants had not made the requisite showing of harm, especially given the fact that most of the witnesses had already been publicly identified with their cause.

Although the majority and dissenting opinions in *Hollingsworth* focus on the manner in which the local rules were amended, the arguments for and against video access have been made elsewhere. The decision may have ended plans to broadcast one trial, but the debate will continue as courts throughout the country experiment with broader media access.

Michael Goodwin is an AmeriCorps VISTA member at Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services and a member of the Communications Committee. Special thanks to Judge John R. Tunheim for his comments to a previous draft of this article.

HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY TO BANKRUPTCY BENCH

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota recently achieved a new milestone. Minnesota’s four bankruptcy judges now have 100 years in cumulative judicial experience. Chief Judge Dreher, the most recent addition to the bench, has been a bankruptcy judge for 22 years, Judge Kishel and Judge O’Brien each has 26 years of experience, and Judge Kressel has 27 years on the bench.

Judge Kressel believes this achievement is all the more impressive given that each judge joined the court during a time of turmoil and turnover on the federal bankruptcy bench. “Bankruptcy was booming in the 1980s and many judges left after a brief time on the bench to join lucrative private practices.” He credits the stability of Minnesota’s



Left to Right: Judge O'Brien, Judge Kishel, Judge Dreher, and Judge Kressel

bankruptcy bench to the “tremendous camaraderie” among the four judges. “We have fun working together and meet monthly to standardize our procedures.” In addition, “We simply like being judges.”

Congratulations to Minnesota’s Bankruptcy Court on this achievement!

Sarah C.S. McLaren is an attorney at Fredrikson & Byron, P.A., and a member of the Communications Committee.

FEDERAL SERVICE BEGINS IN LAW SCHOOL



Left to Right: Geoff Pipoly (2L), Peter Anderson (3L), Tony Todero (3L), and Michael Goodwin (Americorps attorney at SMRLS in their education law clinic) at the FBA's recent law student reception at Gray Plant Mooty. The first three are all students at the U of M, and board members of the student chapter of the FBA. Michael is a 2009 Hamline Law School graduate and member of the FBA Communications Committee.

About three years ago, students at the University of Minnesota Law School formed a student chapter of the Federal Bar Association. The Chapter's goal is to help students at the Law School take advantage of the wonderful mentorship resources available through the National FBA and the Minnesota Chapter. The FBA, and the Minnesota Chapter in particular, provide an excellent forum for law students and new lawyers to learn from some of Minnesota's best judges and practicing attorneys. Our goal, as officers of the FBA student organization at the University of Minnesota Law School, is to increase awareness of these opportunities and participate

in activities consistent with the ideals of the FBA and the Minnesota Chapter.

Like other student organizations, ours is registered with the Law School and the University. We request funding from the University and use the funds to facilitate students' opportunities for professional growth through interaction with members of the federal judiciary and bar. We are privileged to have Professor Alexandra Klass as our faculty advisor.

My first exposure to the FBA was during orientation at the University of Minnesota Law School. I knew upon entering law school

that I would be practicing law as a member of the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps after graduating. I joined the FBA because I saw value in being a member of a professional organization of this caliber and in forming relationships with practitioners from whose experience I can learn.

We have two events planned for this spring. The first is a one-day volunteer service clinic on Tuesday, March 16, 2010. Students from The University of Minnesota Law School's student chapter will be working with the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans to provide assistance in family law and consumer law to area veterans.

Our second spring event is a panel discussion entitled "Federal Lawyers Discussion," and will be followed by a reception at the University of Minnesota Law School on April 7, 2010. This event will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Auerbach Commons. Panel guests for this event include the Honorable James M. Rosenbaum (United States District Judge), Laurie Vasichek (Senior Trial Attorney, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission), Greg Brooker (Civil Chief, United States Attorney's Office), and a representative from the Federal Defender's Office. Students from all area law schools, as well as lawyers interested in federal practice, are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Peter Anderson at ande9251@umn.edu.

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Students interested in joining the student chapter of the FBA at the University of Minnesota Law School should contact Peter Anderson (President) at the email address above or Tony Todero (Vice President) at tode0002@umn.edu. We would also be happy to talk to students from other area law schools who are interested in starting an FBA student organization.

Peter Anderson is a 3L at the University of Minnesota Law School and is president of the Law School's FBA student chapter.

Every year the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association presents a \$2,000 award to a student at each of the four area law schools who demonstrates excellence in the study of federal courts and practice. Each award is presented at a joint ceremony of all the area law schools in the

spring by a federal judge with FBA board members, students, family, friends, deans and faculty in attendance. This year, the ceremony and reception will take place on April 8, 2010, at 4:30 p.m., at William Mitchell College of Law.

Alexandra Klass is an Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota Law School, and advisor to the law school's FBA student chapter.

CLERK'S CORNER: NEW DISPLAY IN MINNEAPOLIS COURTHOUSE

On behalf of the Minnesota Branch of the Eighth Circuit Historical Society, I'm pleased to announce the unveiling of a new display in the Minneapolis Courthouse portraying the 1931 and 1932 federal court trials of Wilbur Foshay, the builder of the Foshay Tower in Minneapolis. The display features a historical account of the 17-count Grand Jury indictment of Foshay, and his trial in

the U.S. Courthouse at Third and Marquette, which was described as a "near-football game atmosphere" with spectators lined up and down Marquette Avenue. Finally, you won't want to miss the information on Genevieve Clark, a Foshay juror who was accused of contempt of court by perjury, which is a compelling and tragic story intertwined with Foshay and District of Minnesota history.

U.S. District Court Judges featured in the display are Judge Molyneaux, who presided over the Foshay trials, and Judges Sanborn and Nordbye, who presided over the trial and resentencing of Genevieve Clark.

During your next visit this spring, please stop by the courthouse lobby and view this interesting display.

- **Rich Sletten**, Clerk of Court

TRIVIA: GET TO KNOW A COURTHOUSE

So you think you know all about the Minneapolis federal courthouse? Think again!

(1) How many chief judges are currently housed in the Minneapolis courthouse?

(2) How many courtrooms was the Minneapolis courthouse designed to accommodate?

(3) Who is the longest-serving active judge on a Minnesota federal court?

(4) What is notable about the placement of judicial chambers in the Minneapolis courthouse?

(5) Who is the first woman to serve as clerk of a federal court in Minnesota?

(6) The Minneapolis courthouse was the first courthouse in the United States to integrate electronic equipment into the design

of its courtrooms. Since the courthouse opened in 1997, how many times has the technology been updated?

(7) Why is there a giant pump in the basement of the courthouse?

(8) One of the building's architects attended the University of Minnesota. What sport did he play there?

Answers on page 12

MORE HELP FOR PRO SE LITIGANTS

In 2009, the District of Minnesota made a commitment to improve the services it provides to pro se litigants. This effort has resulted in the Court launching its Representing Yourself (Pro Se) website and supporting the development of the FBA Pro Se Project. The Court's pro se website contains many helpful resources for litigants who represent themselves, including a Pro Se Civil Guidebook and many new helpful forms. The FBA Pro Se Project connects pro se litigants with a volunteer attorney after a judge refers the pro se litigant to the program. Chief Judge Michael J. Davis is pleased that the Court's internal project to improve the Court's resources for pro se litigants has worked so well with the FBA's Pro Se Project: "The two projects have come together at a time when many people simply cannot afford to hire an attorney to handle their civil cases."

In the few short months since the two efforts have been working in tandem, the Court has seen results. Some pro se litigants are represented by FBA Pro Se Project volunteer attorneys who have filed amended complaints, assisted in negotiating settlements, and even advised litigants to voluntarily dismiss their claims.

Court staff has seen a dramatic decrease in the number of phone calls received from pro se litigants and in the length of time staff must spend on the phone with pro se parties. The ability to quickly direct pro se litigants to the Court's website allows Court staff

to spend more time with individuals who need specialized assistance. It also enables pro se litigants to ask more informed questions so that the Clerk's Office can provide more tailored assistance to meet specific situations. The quality of pro se filings has improved as a result of having access to the pro se resources.

Magistrate Judge Franklin L. Noel, the liaison judge for the Court's Pro Se efforts, is encouraged by the results the Court has seen so far. "Often pro se litigants need resources to help them get their foot in the courthouse door, which is what our Court's website and other resources can help them do," Judge Noel said. Then, after the pro se litigant's civil case has started, "judges who feel that the pro se litigant would benefit from meeting with an attorney can encourage the pro se litigant to contact the FBA Pro Se Project." He continued, "both projects assist pro se litigants in gaining access to the legal system, regardless of their financial situation."

The Court continues to work on improving its pro se resources. In February, the Court began piloting a new web application called E-Pro Se. E-Pro Se is an interactive program that asks a series of questions in order to generate all the documents needed to start a civil case. When a pro se litigant is finished with the interview, the program produces documents in Microsoft Word format, which can then be further edited and printed for filing. The Court hopes to provide access to E-Pro Se on its

website within the next six to eight months.

The introduction of this new web application has also resulted in the Court providing access to its website to visitors in the Clerk's Office. Visiting pro se litigants can search the Court's website and links provided on the website from a computer terminal in the Clerk's Office. While the Court has offered computer terminals for PACER searches, this is the first time that visitors to the Clerk's Office may visit and search the Court's website. Deb Bell of the Minneapolis Clerk's Office explains that a program like E-Pro Se is helpful because many "pro se litigants do not have access to a computer and come to the Clerk's Office wanting to file their court documents that same day. And having access to the Court's online pro se resources provides them an opportunity to search the Court's website on their own to answer some of their questions."

The Court will continue to expand the resources it provides to pro se litigants and hopes that the FBA Pro Se Project will be a continued success. In the words of Chief Judge Davis, "We must continue to make the Court accessible to all persons, especially those who do not have access to an attorney. The federal court, as a public institution, must be seen as welcoming to all."

Tricia Pepin is Legal Advisor to the Clerk of Court for the District of Minnesota. Article editing assistance provided by Amy Leonetti (Pro Se Law Clerk) and Magistrate Judge Franklin Noel.

COMING FULL CIRCLE: THE MERGER OF PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES

The United States Office of Probation and Pretrial Services oversees the investigation and supervision of individuals charged or convicted in federal court. The office is officially a part of the United States District Courts and serves as the “eyes and ears” of the courts. Until recently, the Probation Office and the Pretrial Services Office operated as two distinct units in the District of Minnesota. On December 31, 2009, however, the two offices were merged under the leadership of Chief Probation Officer Kevin Lowry.

The District of Minnesota’s first probation officer was appointed in 1930. For many years, the Probation Office performed both pretrial and post-conviction services for the Court. In 1982, Congress passed the Pretrial Services Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3152-3155, which formally established pretrial services in every judicial district. Two years later, Congress passed the Bail Reform Act of 1984, granting federal judges the authority to consider the preventive effect of detention when assessing a defendant’s suitability for pretrial release. *See id.* § 3142(e). This expanded authority significantly increased the need for pretrial services during the 1980s. Joining a nationwide trend, the District of Minnesota Bench voted in 1988 to establish a separate Pretrial Services Office.

Officers of the newly formed Pretrial Services Office were charged

with gathering, verifying, and reporting information relevant to the pretrial release of each defendant charged in federal court. *See id.* § 3154(1). Judges use the reports to assess the risk of non-appearance and danger to the community. Pretrial service officers also recommend whether defendants should be detained or released, suggest conditions of release, supervise released individuals, contract with facilities for the custody or care of defendants on release, advise the court of any violated conditions, and assist released individuals with obtaining employment and other services. *See id.* § 3154(1)-(12).

After the independent Pretrial Services Office was formed, the Probation Office was divided into two units. The presentence unit investigates offenders prior to sentencing and prepares presentence investigation reports for the assigned judge. The supervision unit works primarily in the field providing post-conviction supervision for offenders on probation, parole, or supervised release.

Although the Probation Office and Pretrial Services Office provided outstanding service as separate entities for twenty years, fiscal stewardship motivated the Bench to reunite the offices in 2009. But an improved bottom line is not the only benefit. Mark Franssen, Deputy Chief of the Office of Probation and Pretrial Services, anticipates that the combined office will be able to provide a

greater continuum of services, facilitate better communication and assistance among officers, share staff and other resources, and improve its bargaining position in negotiating contracts with treatment facilities and other programs.

The re-combined office currently has three units: the presentence investigation unit, the supervision unit, and the pretrial services unit. The pretrial services unit recently was divided into a supervision unit and an investigative unit, much like the division for probation officers. Franssen expects the streamlined duties to result in even greater efficiency.

When the offices were merged at the end of last year, there were forty-one probation officers and nine pretrial services officers. Thanks in part to the quick implementation of the Bench’s decision to combine the offices—it was accomplished in less than five months—not one probation or pretrial services officer lost his or her job due to budgetary constraints.

Adrienne Meyers is a law clerk to United States Magistrate Judge Jeanne J. Graham and a member of the Communications Committee. Prior to clerking for Magistrate Judge Graham, Adrienne clerked for United States District Judge Paul A. Magnuson, United States Magistrate Judge Susan Richard Nelson, and United States Magistrate Judge Jonathan G. Lebedoff.



Minnesota, Let's Win the 2010 Chapter Challenge Membership Campaign!

What: A membership competition among similarly-sized FBA chapters to see which chapter can get the largest net percentage change in membership from January 1, 2010 to August 31, 2010.

Who: Minnesota is the second-largest chapter in the FBA, and will be competing against other large chapters in "Group 5" as follows:

Chapter	Membership At 1/1/2010
New Orleans	1,113
Minnesota	809
District of Columbia	752
Puerto Rico	659
Eastern District of Michigan	506
Northern District of Ohio	466
Los Angeles	449

Why: Bragging rights, yes, but also - MONEY. The three chapters in Group 5 with the largest net percentage increases in membership will receive cash prizes of \$2,000 (first place), \$1,000 (second place), and \$500 (third place). Any prize money won by the Minnesota Chapter will be committed to support the Chapter's Pro Se Project.

Also, Minnesota Chapter law firms and members best exemplifying the spirit of this competition will receive special recognition at the May luncheon and Chapter business meeting.

Your job: Pass the word about this contest among your colleagues.
Encourage your newer colleagues to join the FBA.
Encourage your former member friends and colleagues to re-join the FBA.
Don't forget to send in your membership renewal when it comes due.
Applications available here: <http://www.fedbar.org/connect.html> (online) or
<http://www.fedbar.org/app-fillable.pdf> (fillable PDF)
Track our Chapter's monthly performance against the competition here:
<http://www.fedbar.org/chapter-challenge.html>

Questions: Contact Bill Hittler (612-204-4111) or Bill Otteson (612-664-5674)

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at the Minneapolis Club

March 25, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Spring Board of Directors Meeting,
Women's Club of Minneapolis

April 7, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Federal Lawyers Discussion,
University of Minnesota Law School

April 8, 2010

4:30 p.m.

Law Student Awards Ceremony,
William Mitchell College of Law

April 12, 2010

7:00 p.m.

James M. Rosenbaum National Security Symposium,
William Mitchell College of Law

April 21, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at the Minneapolis Club

May 1, 2010

Dinner Dance, Minnekahda Club

May 12, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at the Minneapolis Club

June 22, 2010

Federal Practice Seminar, Guthrie Theater

August 30, 2010

Annual Golf Outing

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Do you have news or an idea for a future issue of Bar Talk? Please contact Anita Terry at anita_terry@mnd.uscourts.gov or Leah Janus at LJanus@fredlaw.com to share.

Special thanks to **Rebecca L. Baertsch**, Judicial Assistant to United States District Judge Donovan W. Frank, for her proofreading expertise.

ANSWERS TO “GET TO KNOW A COURTHOUSE” ON PAGE 7

(1) Four chief judges: Chief Judge Loken, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals; Chief Judge Davis, District of Minnesota; Chief Judge Dreher, Bankruptcy Court; Chief Judge Kressel, Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Eighth Circuit.

(2) Twenty-one courtrooms.

(3) Bankruptcy Judge Kressel, who was appointed to the bench in 1982. (Judge Murphy was appointed in 1979, but she serves on the Court of Appeals, not on a Minnesota-only federal court.)

(4) The Minneapolis courthouse is one of the few in the country in which Court of Appeals judges' chambers are located on floors lower than those of District Court judges.

(5) Lori A. Vosejpka, current Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court.

(6) The Court's I.S. Department is currently installing the third generation of courtroom technology into the Minneapolis courthouse.

(7) There is an underground river running under Minneapolis. The building's designers planned for the river to be three feet deeper than it is, so the building is in fact built in the middle of the underground river. The pumps run continually to keep the river out of the building.

(8) Ice hockey. The architect is St. Paul native William Pedersen of Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates.
