



# FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION

## SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

### *Honorable K. Michael Moore to Become Chief Judge*

On July 1, 2014, the Honorable K. Michael Moore becomes Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, taking over for current Chief Judge Federico A. Moreno.

Moore earned a B.A. in Economics from Florida State University and a J.D. from Fordham Law School, before embarking on a career in public service. After graduating from Fordham, Judge Moore served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern and Northern Districts of Florida. In 1987, Judge Moore was appointed United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida by President Reagan. Then, in 1989, President George H. W. Bush appointed Judge Moore to Director of the United States Marshals Service, making him the first presidentially appointed director of our nation's oldest law enforcement agency. In 1992, President Bush appointed Judge Moore to his current position on the District Court.



**Honorable K. Michael Moore,**  
**U.S. District Judge**

I also expect to work closely with our non-Article III judicial officers, bankruptcy and magistrate judges, as well as the Clerk of Court and the Chief U.S. Probation Officer. Together we share a common mission of operating the Court smoothly, which means ensuring that jurors, lawyers and the general public who enter our courthouse, are welcomed, respected and secure.

The Chief Judge also oversees a large organization of dedicated, loyal and hardworking employees. I aim to ensure that our employees have a clear understanding of performance expectations, are provided with the necessary resources and training, have opportunities for advancement and understand that our judges appreciate their contribution to our common pursuit."

When Chief Judge Moreno was asked for his thoughts on his successor, he had this to say: "Judge Moore will make a great Chief Judge. His prior roles as Director of the Marshals Service and United States Attorney demonstrate that he knows how to succeed in a management position. As a colleague, Judge Moore has always sacrificed for the good of the Court. Whenever a judge needs help, for whatever reason, Judge Moore is the first to volunteer. I am certain that he will continue to put the Court first as Chief."

When asked to comment on his goals in his new role as Chief Judge, Judge Moore stated: "It is important to remember that the district court acts on most administrative matters as a body. Consequently, a chief judge's goals represent the collaborative and collective goals of all of the court's judges. It will be my responsibility to communicate timely and accurate information to my colleagues, so that we can make informed decisions on administrative matters. I will listen for ways to relieve my colleagues of burdensome administrative responsibilities, where appropriate, and support them in carrying out their judicial responsibilities."

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**Federal Court Orientation.** In January, the Chapter hosted its second annual Federal Court Orientation program for newly admitted lawyers. The event was hosted in the chambers of U.S. District Judge Robert N. Scola, Jr. and featured three panel presentations. The first



panel was comprised of Senior District Judge Paul C. Huck, District Judge Kathleen M. Williams,

and Magistrate Judge Edwin G. Torres, and focused on civil pretrial matters, professionalism, and legal writing. The second panel was comprised of District Judge Scola, U.S. Attorney Wifredo Ferrer, and Chief Assistant Federal Defender Hector Dopico, and focused on trial practice. The final panel was hosted by the court's IT staff and addressed the latest courtroom technology. The presentations were followed by lunch with the judges.

**33rd Federal Judicial Reception.** The 33rd Annual Judicial Reception on February 27, 2014 was another huge success! We had a tremendous turnout, including many members of our federal judiciary, lawyers from diverse practice areas, law clerks, and law students.



For the second year in a row, we were in the larger upstairs room at the Hyatt, with gorgeous views of the river.

Throughout the evening attendees mingled with one another, seizing the opportunity to catch up with known acquaintances and meet new ones as well. Our local law school student members assisted in signing up new Chapter members at the event. If you have any comments or questions for next year's event, please do not hesitate to send an email to our Reception Committee chair at [brett.barfield@hklaw.com](mailto:brett.barfield@hklaw.com). We hope to see you next year!

**Mindfulness CLE.** On February 6, 2014, the DCBA/FBA South Florida Chapter's Mindfulness in the Law Joint Task Force, The University of Miami Mindfulness in Law Program, and Berger Singerman LLP, hosted a CLE program titled, "Raising the Bar: A Mindful and Ethical Start for the New Year." It was attended by more than 130 judges and attorneys. Panelists included U.S. Senior District Judge Alan S. Gold, Dr. Amishi Jha, a neuroscientist and professor at UM, U.S. Magistrate Judge Chris M. McAliley, Tony Recio, Esq. of Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske, and Prof. Scott Rogers, founder of the UM Law School's Mindfulness in Law Program. The panel addressed neurological, health, and other benefits of maintaining a mindfulness practice, and ideas for integrating mindfulness in the practice of law.



**President's Message.** *The South Florida Chapter is now the 5th largest in the Federal Bar Association. As our membership grows, our activities have also grown in type and number. As always, the Chapter's annual Federal Judicial Reception was enjoyed by hundreds of attorneys and judges.*

*The Chapter is committed to the future of federal practice, with activities for law clerks, young lawyers, and law students. This year, the Chapter co-sponsored a discussion on mindfulness and a symposium on significant leading federal district court decisions. The Chapter's women's initiative continues to bring phenomenal speakers on cutting-edge topics. Our members also continued to enjoy networking*

*and hearing great speakers at our Bankers Club luncheons.*

*In the summer, we are looking forward to the "Board Room" lunches, which provide an opportunity to talk with leaders in the federal practice community in a small informal setting. FBA members attend for free. We also look forward to a summer event for young lawyers and another women's initiative event.*

*Please visit our new Chapter website at [www.fba-sdfla.org](http://www.fba-sdfla.org). There is a new section on FBA publications, with the aim of helping FBA members publish in the Federal Lawyer magazine or the FBA section newsletters. We also encourage FBA members to sign up on the new pro bono contact page of the U.S. District Court website.*

*Finally, our Chapter is grateful for the dedicated service by Judge Moreno as Chief Judge, and for Judge Moreno's support of the FBA. Our Chapter looks forward to a great relationship with Judge Moore, who will become Chief Judge this summer.*

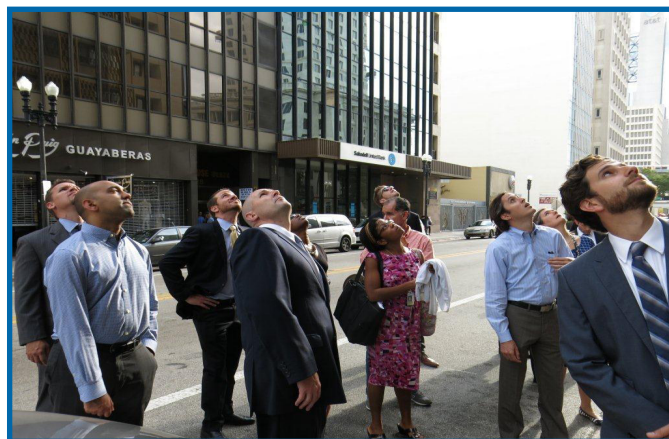
**President, Ana Maria "Ani" Martinez.**



**Law Clerks / Young Lawyers Committee.** This Spring, the Law Clerks/Young Lawyers Committee hosted two events. In March, we partnered with the FBA Student Chapter at the University of Miami School of Law to host a "Meet the Law Clerks" Lunch at the Miami-Dade County Attorney's Office in downtown Miami. The event provided law students an opportunity to meet federal law clerks and to speak with them about their work and the process of applying for clerkships. The luncheon began with a welcome from County Attorney Robert Cuevas and First Assistant County Attorney Abigail Price-Williams.

In April, we joined HistoryMiami for an informational event and happy hour. Dr. Paul George of Miami-Dade College and HistoryMiami treated attendees to an historical tour of Flagler Street, with an emphasis on the

great architecture found in downtown Miami. Following the tour, law clerks congregated at La Loggia for a networking happy hour.

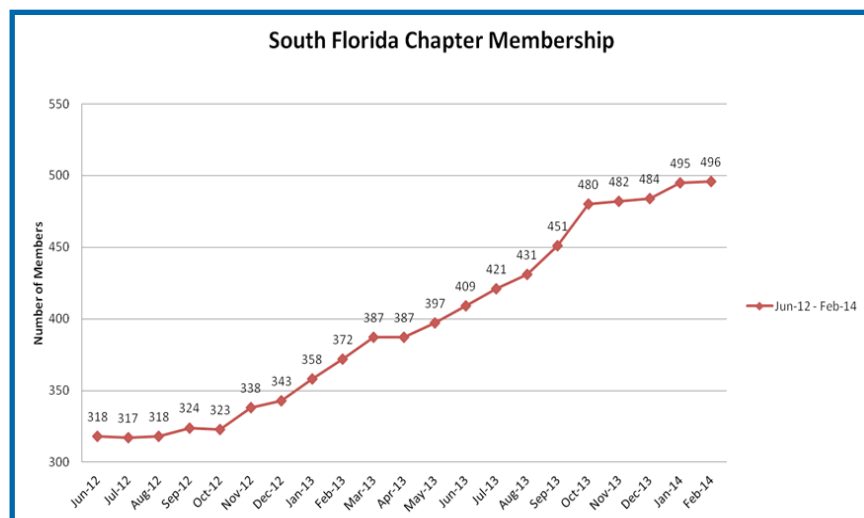


**Women Lawyers Initiative.** The Women Lawyers Initiative has been busy in recent months. In November, the WLI hosted a sold out CLE on social media and the courtroom. The event was well received and participants have requested a follow-up presentation in 2014. In March, the WLI hosted a CLE on trial graphics and technology. The speaker was Kerri Ruttenberg, a national authority on trial graphics. Ms. Ruttenberg gave a two-hour program discussing the effective use of technology and graphics in the courtroom.



**Bruce Yasukochi, CPA Joins FBA.** As the South Florida Chapter has grown in members and activities, we are fortunate to have an outstanding CPA, Bruce Yasukochi, helping the FBA pro bono! Mr. Yasukochi has assisted the Chapter with tax returns, financial statements, record keeping, profit and loss analysis, and general advice for streamlined and excellent management of the Chapter's finances. Mr. Yasukochi is familiar with lawyers and federal court. He is a practice leader in Cherry Bekaert LLP's fraud and forensics group. He has led many significant and complex fraud and internal corporate investigations. Mr. Yasukochi has many years of experience, including ten years at a Big Four Accounting Firm.

**Chapter Membership Increases to 496!** Our Chapter continues to grow at a rapid pace. Since June 2012, our membership has increased from 318 members to 496 members, a 56% increase. Our Chapter is now the 5th largest in the country. Help us break the 500-member barrier by encouraging your colleagues to join today.



### Update From the National Government Relations Committee.

On April 25, as part of FBA Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C., FBA delegations met with nearly all Senators (or their respective staff) on the Senate Judiciary Committee. FBA urged support for the Federal Judiciary's imminent request for an emergency supplemental appropriation to mitigate the impact of sequestration. The appropriation will assist in reducing the dire funding situation faced by Federal Defender Offices. FBA advocates also sought prompt Senate consideration of pending judicial nominees. Of the 87 vacancies as of April 2014, 36 are characterized by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts as "judicial emergencies."

## Upcoming Events

Bankers Club Luncheon  
U.S. Magistrate Judges  
Alicia M. Otazo-Reyes and  
Alicia Valle  
May 14, 2014

Attorney/Law Student  
Networking Event  
Batch Gastropub  
June 10, 2014

Boardroom Lunch  
Eric I. Bustillo, Regional  
Director of the Miami  
Regional Office of the U.S.  
SEC  
Holland & Knight  
June 12, 2014

Boardroom Lunch  
Judge Robert N. Scola, Jr.  
July 2014

Boardroom Lunch  
August 2014

Boardroom Lunch  
September 2014

FBA Women Lawyers  
Initiative  
Fall 2014

Annual Awards &  
Installation Dinner  
Fall 2014

Visit our new website at  
[www.fba-sdfla.org](http://www.fba-sdfla.org)

Become a mentor today!

Email Yaniv Adar at  
[yadar@homerbonner.com](mailto:yadar@homerbonner.com)

## Newsletter Editors

Clayton Solomon  
Stephanie Casey

Have a suggestion for future  
newsletter content?

Email the committee at [federalbar.southflorida@gmail.com](mailto:federalbar.southflorida@gmail.com)  
Attn: Newsletter Committee

**Bankers Club Luncheon Series.** Our Bankers Club Luncheons invite a distinguished guest or panel to discuss timely issues, and are an opportunity for members of the local bar to network and mingle. Below are highlights from our most recent lunches.

- At our January luncheon Robert E. O'Neill spoke about the trends in criminal cases going to trial in the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. Mr. O'Neill served as the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida from 2007-2008 and again from 2010-2013.
- In March, U.S. District Judge Kenneth A. Marra gave a fascinating talk about the role of jurors, specifically analyzing the ramifications of a six versus twelve-person jury. Judge Marra also fielded questions from both the live audience and from e-mails to our moderator.
- Finally, in April we hosted a panel discussion titled, "*The Federal Grand Jury*." The panelists were U.S. District Judge Donald L. Graham, U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrea M. Simonton, Supervisory AUSA Peter Forand, and defense attorney Howard Srebnick. AUSA Robert Watson moderated the panel discussion, which focused on various aspects of the grand jury process.

**Law Student Events.** Our Chapter was involved in two great law student events in March. On March 20, the FIU Law student chapter hosted an event titled, "*Pathway to a Clerkship*," at the FIU College of Law. The panel was comprised of U.S. Circuit Judge Adalberto J. Jordan and U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrea M. Simonton. FIU Law Dean R. Alexander Acosta and Bernie Pastor also joined the judges and students at a reception after the talk. On March 16, a group of law students and lawyers met to ride for a cause at FlyWheel in Miami Beach. Attendees, who each generously donated \$25 to Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc., participated in an energetic cycling ride followed by a luncheon sponsored by the University of Miami.

**FBA Awards & Installation Dinner.** This year's FBA Awards & Installation Dinner took place on October 25, 2013, at the JW Marriot Marquis. The dinner reached maximum capacity and exceeded previous attendance records with over 300 guests in attendance. U.S. District Judge Peter Palermo gave the traditional invocation and Federal Public Defender Michael Caruso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Outgoing Chapter President Bernie Pastor began by sharing some of the Chapter's accomplishments over the last year. Bernie then introduced our United States Attorney, Wifredo Ferrer, who presented the Honorable Stanley Marcus with the Edward B. Davis Award for Service to the Federal Bench & Bar, the Chapter's highest honor. The Award is given to a judge or lawyer who has exemplified the FBA's values of excellence and service to the community, the federal bench, and the federal bar.

Bernie then introduced the Chapter's 2013-14 President, Assistant U.S. Attorney Ana Maria Martinez. After Chief Judge Moreno swore in Ani, the other new officers, and the executive board, Ani introduced national FBA President and U.S. District Judge Gustavo Gelpi. Judge Gelpi commended the South Florida Chapter for its accomplishments and the several awards we received this year. Ani ended the evening by expressing the Chapter's gratitude for Bernie's service throughout the previous year.

