



## Federal Bar Association

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### FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION PRESENTS INAUGURAL RULE OF LAW AWARDS

New York, N.Y.—To recognize a victory of the independent judicial process over international terrorism, the Federal Litigation Section of the Federal Bar Association (FBA) and the Southern District of New York Chapter of the FBA have hosted the presentation of FBA Presidential Citations and Rule of Law Awards at the federal district courthouse in Manhattan.

Acting on directions from the highest levels of the government of Iran, in September 1992 a team of assassins murdered four dissident Iranians meeting at the Mykonos restaurant in Berlin, Germany. There followed a sustained diplomatic and political effort in Tehran and Bonn to prevent the terrorists from being brought to justice in Germany. Ignoring those efforts, Chief Federal Prosecutor Alexander von Stahl and lead prosecutor Bruno Jost persevered for three years in bringing the case to trial and verdict of guilty. *Assassins of the Turquoise Palace* by Roya Hakakian made the dramatic story known in journalistic detail.



*Bruno Jost (left) and Alexander von Stahl, Recipients of Rule of Law Awards*

Now, FBA President Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpi has issued Presidential Citations to von Stahl and Jost, in recognition of their “faithful adherence to the rule of law and exemplary service in a significant case, in the highest and best traditions of the legal profession.” At a crowded courthouse ceremony, Chief U.S. District Judge Loretta A. Preska welcomed the honorees with remarks tracing the American tradition of a society ruled by laws, not by men. U.S. District Judge Joanna Seybert presided over a lively discussion by Hakakian and former U.S. Ambassador J.D. Bindenagel, who spoke and answered audience questions about the lasting impact of the “Mykonos case.” FBA Litigation Section Chair Robert E. Kohn presented the Presidential Citations, together with the inaugural Rule of Law Awards, issued by the section and the Southern District of New York Chapter.



*The FBA’s First Annual Rule of Law Awards,  
Daniel P. Moynihan U.S. Courthouse, Feb. 25, 2014*

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The Federal Bar Association is the largest national association of lawyers and judges who practice and serve within the nation’s federal courts. Founded in 1920, the Association is dedicated to the advancement of federal jurisprudence and to promoting the welfare, interests, education, and professional development of all attorneys involved in federal law. Its members run the gamut of federal practice: attorneys practicing in small to large legal firms, attorneys in corporations and federal agencies, and members of the judiciary. The FBA is the catalyst for communication between the bar and the bench, as well as the private and public sectors.