

FBA VETERANS & MILITARY LAW SECTION

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2025

Attendees:

- Harvey Weiner, Kaitlyn Degnan, Courtney Richards, David Harding, Andrew McConville, Dylan Perry, Mike McCarthy

-Feb. '25 Meeting Minutes are approved.

Even War Has Rules

- Courtney Richards attended the event on behalf of the Section.
- 75-80 attendees
- Bob DeSouza – former FBA President – MC'd the event
- Several former JAGs spoke at the event

Federal Lawyer – Winter 2026 Edition

- Harvey will get with Amanda for an update.
- Article idea – Focus on Justice Gorsuch and his apparent support for veterans in cases reaching the SCOTUS.
- Bufkins - Recent SCOTUS opinion – The VA is no longer required to give veterans the benefit of the doubt in VA determinations. (7-2 opinion)
- Hencely – Case on Cert with SCOTUS – Harvey will be filing an amicus brief
 - Case addressing the ability to raise a claim against a DOD civilian contractor for injuries stemming from a contractor's negligent act(s). Relates to Feres Doctrine and Boyle Doctrine.

DEI in the FBA and Our Section

- Andrew will attend the FBA DEI meeting on behalf of the section.

Legislative Matters

- VA & VA Healthcare System
 - Mike has shared guidance with Harvey on the FBA's position regarding commentary on public affairs.
 - Dylan will review the guidance and provide a recommendation to the Section.
 - Mike to share the guidance with Dylan

Mentoring

- (New) Lift Up Leaders
 - Update from Mike on the program's revamp efforts.

CLE

- Set for April 2025
- Co-sponsored with International Law Section
- Course agenda and presentation materials have been received.
- Registration is open. Will be marketed soon.
- Approved for CLE credit. A fee is associated with non-FBA members. Will be saved for On-Demand CLE credit.