

## FBA VETERANS & MILITARY LAW SECTION

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2025

#### **Attendees:**

- Courtney Ramos, David Harding, Andrew McConville, Dylan Perry, Andrew Wondolowski, Harvey Weiner, Carol Scott, Mike McCarthy, and Desiree Castillo

-September '25 Meeting Minutes are approved.

#### **This Year's Board**

- Chair: Courtney Ramos
- Vice Chair: David Harding
- Secretary: Andrew McConville
- Treasurer: Dylan Perry
- Immediate Past Chair: Harvey Weiner
- Chair Publications Committee: Amanda Meyers
- Chair Veterans Affairs Committee – Carol Scott
- Chair CLE – Kaitlyn Degnan
- Chair Memberships – Andrew Wondolski
- Chair Military Law – Kevin Fitch

#### **Membership**

- Desiree provided an update on membership.
- Andrew Wondolski will send out a welcome letter to new members.

#### **Veteran/Military Law Update**

- Harvey provided an update on the Hencley case re: defense contractor liability.
  - Case was recently argued before SCOTUS; opinion should be published in the next few months
- Carol provided an update on a Senate Committee meeting for Veterans in October.
  - Article in the Washington Post (Gade article)
    - Gade worked in the first Trump administration
    - Focus on the medical rating schedule to address alleged gross fraud and abuse in the VA disability system.
    - Sleep apnea is a targeted disability that may be scratched.
  - HR 4446 – VRNE program expansion.
  - HR 3400 – Requires a VA physician to be a traveling physician for one year in various US territories.

## **Potential Naval Justice School Award**

- Andrew McConville proposed our support and sponsorship of an award for a deserving graduate of the Naval Justice School.
  - This may include a plaque for the School to maintain for all awardees.
  - This may include a plaque for the awardee.
  - This may include a free membership and FBA swag (via FBA store) for the awardee.
  - Any plaque should be FBA Veteran & Military Law Section branded.
    - Mike advised that the FBA has vendors for awards and plaques.
  - We could provide at least one Section member to be present for the award presentation.
  - Dylan will help prepare a supplemental budget request
  - Andrew M. will coordinate with the Naval Justice School to ensure that our plan is approved with them.
  - Courtney will work to secure approval on our end.
  - This may be an award given multiple times per year given that each course cycle is ~12 weeks.

## **CLE**

- Posse Comitatus Act
  - Carol and Harvey would be interested in helping with a CLE on this topic
  - Mike reminded the group to ensure that the CLE needs to be politically neutral

## **Federal Lawyer Edition**

- The article submission date has passed, and articles are currently in the final stages of editing
- Publication is set for January 2026
- We may be interested in a future publication; however, we should see how this edition is received, and a future publication wouldn't be for at least another year or two.
  - Mike emphasized that our section could still publish columns in other editions, so long as the columns are of interest to the broader membership. He also highlighted that judicial profiles are also always welcome.

## **2025-2026 Budget**

- \$500 for our Section's sponsorship of Jobs for JAGs and \$250 for an in-person Board Meeting was approved and combined as a \$750 line item.
- Insofar as we plan another in-person meeting, Harvey recommends that we plan it for a time of year where student members are most able to attend (avoid May – August; December)