

FBA VETERANS & MILITARY LAW SECTION  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2026

**Attendees:**

Courtney Ramos, Andrew McConville, Dylan Perry, Kaitlyn Degnan, Andrew Wondolowski, Kevin Fitch, Mike McCarthy, T.J. McGrath, and Amanda Myers.

- December 2025 Meeting Minutes were approved.

**Welcome**

- TJ McGrath introduced herself and explained her role as National Liaison.
- VML Section Welcome Statement Review – Great work by Andrew Wondolowski. We will begin circulating the welcome message to new Section members going forward.

**CLE Status/Co-Sponsorship of Events**

- Courtney presented the following CLE co-sponsorship opportunities:
  - Date TBD - Army Heritage Foundation – Red Cross Presentation – Law of War. Courtney discussed possibly co-sponsoring this event again as we did last year. Sponsorship may relieve the burden of the Section hosting its own CLE.
  - Date TBD - Federal Benefits webinar – Federal Career Services Division. Courtney will contact T.J. about possibly co-sponsoring this event.
  - February 5, 2026 - In-person seminar at the Watergate Hotel, Washington, DC.

The panels: Emerging Trends in Labor & Employment Law; a SCOTUS Review of Labor & Employment Cases (recent decisions and pending cases); and What to Do When Ice Comes Knocking (how to advise clients to prepare for immigration enforcement/investigation at the workplace).

We discussed having a local member present in the Washington, D.C. area to circulate membership flyers for our Section.
  - After discussion, there was a vote in favor of further exploring the possibility of co-sponsoring one or more of these events.
  - Date TBD - Posse Comitatus Act. Courtney relayed that there have been positive responses on this topic; however, there is hesitancy on the part of those contacted

about being a presenter or panelist because of the current political climate (even though the presentation would be apolitical). Courtney is still searching for possible panelists. It is doubtful that this presentation will take place on March 5 (anniversary of the Boston Massacre) because this might be too short notice at this point.

- **Membership Update** – Andrew provided a membership update: 5 new members joined in December (3 lawyers; 2 students). Mike provided the updated membership totals: 277 professional members, 163 students, 440 total members. Courtney and Andrew will circulate another email to existing members about the need to renew registrations.
- **The Federal Lawyer Veterans and Military Law Edition** – Great work by all who contributed. Special acknowledgement to Harvey Weiner for his published article and Carol Scott, who assisted Cissy Jackson on her lead article.
- **National Chapter – Mission Project** – Mike informed us that organizing a Mission Project is not a requirement for the Section, but that each Chapter, Section, and Division is encouraged to host one of these events for their members and in their communities.
- **Key Dates**
  - January 21, 2026 at 3 p.m. – Leadership Call with National.
  - January 22, 2026 at 2 p.m. – L&E is hosting a webinar titled “Presenting Your Best Case in L&E Arbitration and Mediation: A View From the Bench”. Registration is free and CLE credits will be offered.
  - March 27-28, 2026 – FBA Leadership Summit in Arlington, VA. The Section is budgeted for reimbursement of 2 officers to attend.
  - September 17-19, 2026 - Annual Conference in Richmond, VA.
  - Feb 2027 – Conference in Tampa.
- **Current Events** – Andrew informed us that Archbishop Broglio said that it is morally acceptable for troops to disobey orders to invade Greenland. This underscores the clergy’s emerging role in speaking out against the administration’s use of force.