

D.C. CIRCUIT

District of Columbia

April 18 marked the D.C. Chapter's sixth Distinguished Lawyer Luncheon Series event in the approximately three years since the inception of the series. The luncheon speaker was D.C.'s Attorney General Linda Singer. Previous speakers have included D.C.'s U.S. attorney, Jeffrey Taylor, and Singer's predecessor Robert Spagnoletti.

At the luncheon—at which many attorneys on Singer's staff, FBA members, and, among other judges, U.S. District Judges Colleen Kollar-Kotelly and Richard Roberts were in attendance—Singer provided an overview of her background, vision, priorities, and goals for the D.C. attorney general's office, as well as its relationship to other D.C. and federal agencies. Of note, Singer discussed her oversight role (40 D.C. agency general counsel report to her); the hundreds of staff members she supervises; her relationship with the mayor's counsel, Peter Nichols; and the mayor's management style.

Singer emphasized the importance of professional development and pro bono work and specifically mentioned several large area firms that provide her office with volunteer lawyers and in-



Fifth Circuit: FBA chapter leaders and representatives from Baton Rouge and New Orleans, La., and from Fort Worth, Dallas, El Paso, and San Antonio, Texas, attended the 2007 Judicial Conference of the Fifth Circuit held on May 6–9 in San Antonio. The conference allowed FBA members the opportunity to network and help improve court efficiency and process while earning CLE credit—(back row, l to r) Gerry Howard, president of the El Paso Chapter; Pamela Mascari, president-elect of the Baton Rouge Chapter; Kelsey Kornick Funes, member of the Baton Rouge Chapter; Beth Smith, vice president for the Fifth Circuit; John Horany, president of the Dallas Chapter; (front row, l to r) Ashley Belleau, member of the FBA Board of Directors; Matt Moreland, member of the FBA Board of Directors and president of the New Orleans Chapter; Virginia Schlueter, president-elect of the New Orleans Chapter and immediate past chair of the Criminal Law Section; and Joe Cleveland, president of the Fort Worth Chapter. FBA members who attended the conference but are not pictured include Hon. Pam Mathy of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, president of the San Antonio Chapter; Chris Antcliff, immediate past president of the El Paso Chapter; Jeff Dykes, member of the Southern District of Texas Chapter; and Craig Gargotta, editor in chief of *The Federal Lawyer*.



D.C. Chapter: At the Distinguished Lawyer Luncheon Series—(left photo, l to r) Assistant Attorney General Carol Connolly, Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia; Judges Colleen Kollar-Kotelly and Richard Roberts, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; Attorney General Linda Singer, Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia; Cary Devorsetz, past chapter president; Silvio Krvaric, current chapter president; (right photo, l to r) James Richardson, FBA president-elect, and Judge Richard Roberts, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.



Western District of Pennsylvania Chapter: The chapter hosted a reception on Sept. 7, 2006, on the occasion of the retirement of Magistrate Judge Ila Jeanne Sensenich of U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. The judge retired after 35 years on the bench (March 15, 1971–Sept. 10, 2006)—(left photo, l to r) Judge Sensenich and Thomas P. McGinnis, immediate past chapter president.

Pentagon Chapter: At the 2007 Jobs for Jags—(right photo, l to r) Cmdr. Jeffrey C. Good (Ret.), first vice president and immediate past chapter president; Teresa L. Raymond, chapter treasurer; and William N. LaForge, FBA president.

dicated her interest in expanding that program. Singer, moreover, touched on pending cases of interest, including *Parker v. District of Columbia*, a Second Amendment case in which the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit recently decided against the district. The attorney general also emphasized her desire to have a significant role in the cleanup of the Anacostia River, which has been cited as one of the top 20 polluted rivers in the country. Another goal of hers is to reduce the level of truancy in D.C.'s public schools—apparently a widespread problem in Washington, D.C.

Members of the D.C. Chapter also hosted a luncheon on May 23 to honor the memory of Drexel D. Journey, longtime supporter of the D.C. Chapter as a board member, national delegate, chair of the chapter's Membership Committee, and, on the national level, president of the FBA's Democracy Development Initiative and valued member of the association's national Membership Committee. Vergene S. Journey, Drex's wife of 54 years, was the guest of honor at DACOR (Diplomats and Consular Officers, Retired) Bacon House in Washington, D.C. The chapter presented Ms. Journey with several FBA mementos as well as copies of an article about Drex and the accompanying resolution

passed by the FBA's National Council, which was published in the May 2007 issue of *The Federal Lawyer*.

Pentagon

The 2007 Jobs for JAGs program completed an annual Pentagon Chapter tradition of providing this program, which has continued for more than a decade. Although originally designed for retiring JAGs, this year's program continued the recent trend of appealing to both junior attorneys considering civilian careers options and senior military attorneys who are preparing to retire and make the transition from active duty service to civilian or government practice, as well as other alternative careers in which a law degree is preferred. Chapter President Kathleen A. Duignan and FBA President William N. LaForge opened the day's events. Attendees and speakers came from around the country and included top attorneys from the Department of Justice and other government agencies, associates of law firms and senior counsel in private practice, law professors, and attorneys working for nonprofit organizations. In addition, consultants specializing in résumé preparation, interview techniques, and professional wardrobe tips were on hand to share tips and insights on finding employ-

ment. Many of the panelists were retired or former judge advocates, who shared their hard-earned tips on selling one's skills as a JAG to government employers, law firms, and corporations. The luncheon speaker was retired U.S. Army Col. Donald A. Deline of Halliburton Corporation. The D.C. Chapter, the Federal Career Service Division, the Judge Advocates' Association, and the American Bar Association also contributed to the program. **TFL**

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