

FIRST CIRCUIT

Massachusetts

On June 19, the Massachusetts Chapter presented a special program entitled “Litigating Civil Cases Before the Magistrate Judges: From Discovery to Jury Trial.” The event featured Chief Magistrate Judge Kenneth P. Neiman and Magistrate Judges Marianne B. Bowler, Judith G. Dein, Leo T. Sorokin, and Timothy S. Hillman of the District of Massachusetts. The distinguished panel shared valuable insights about practicing in their respective courtrooms, their views on the participation of junior lawyers, and their expectations of a newly implemented pilot program that places each of the magistrate judges in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts’ regular assignment rotation for civil cases and the mediation program.

Following the panel discussion, guests enjoyed a wonderful wine and cheese reception. The law firm of Nixon Peabody LLP hosted this event in its office in downtown Boston.

Rhode Island

On Feb. 12, the Rhode Island Chapter celebrated the centennial of the U.S. courthouse in Providence at an event

that included Chief Justice John G. Roberts and FBA President Jim Richardson. Richardson was the keynote speaker at a breakfast meeting held for FBA members, at which they had a unique opportunity to hear about the FBA’s national agenda. Breakfast was followed by the kickoff of the Courthouse Centennial, at which Chief Justice Roberts was the honored guest. Several members of the chapter were able to meet the Chief

Justice afterward. Later in the afternoon, following a special swearing-in ceremony for the newly admitted members to the federal bar, presided over by the Chief Justice, the FBA held its annual reception for the newly admitted members, and Chief Justice Roberts made a point to meet as many of them as possible.



San Antonio: At the chapter’s May 2008 luncheon—Chapter President Todd Hedgepeth poses with Col. Julie Hasdorff, U.S. Army JAG (Reserves), who spoke on the topic of implementing military justice in Iraq and shared her experiences as an active duty military judge trying courts martial in Iraq.



Massachusetts Chapter: At the “Litigating Civil Cases Before the Magistrate Judges” program—(left photo, l to r) Magistrate Judge Timothy Hillman, Magistrate Judge Leo Sorokin, Chief Magistrate Judge Kenneth Nieman, Magistrate Judge Marianne Bowler, and Magistrate Judge Judith Dein.



Rhode Island Chapter: At the Courthouse Centennial celebration—(right photo, back row, l to r) Jim Richardson, FBA president; Robin Feder, chapter president; Gerald Petros; Chief Justice John G. Roberts; Col. Brendan Doherty, superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police; and Magistrate Judge Lincoln Almond, District of Rhode Island; (front row, l to r) Hon. Edward Clifton, Rhode Island Superior Court; Deming Sherman; and C. Leonard O’Brien, chapter treasurer.



Atlanta Chapter: At the annual luncheon honoring the federal judiciary—(left photo, l to r) Jim Gerstenlauer, circuit executive for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, accepts a donation to the Eleventh Circuit Historical Society from Jake Bielema, chapter treasurer; (right photo, l to r) Kevin Weimer, chapter president; David Nahmias, U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia; Robin Sangston, luncheon chair; Jake Bielema, chapter treasurer; U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey; Jeff Berhold, chapter president-elect; and Amy Levin Weil, immediate past chapter president.



Broward County Chapter: At the Summer Associates' Day at Court—summer associates with Judge James Cohn, Judge Barry Seltzer, Judge Robin Rosenbaum, Judge John Olson, and chapter board members Valorie Chavin, Greg Ward, and Rene Harrod.

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Atlanta

On June 17, the Atlanta Chapter hosted its annual luncheon honoring the federal judiciary. U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey gave the keynote address, during which he discussed terrorism and national security—a presentation that was sobering yet well received. Chief Judge Jack Camp of the Northern District of Georgia introduced Judge Mukasey. The luncheon also included recognition of the judges of the Eleventh Circuit and the Northern District of Georgia by the chapter's president, Kevin Weimer; the election of

new chapter officers; and the presentation of a donation to the Eleventh Circuit Historical Society by John ("Jake") Bielema, chapter treasurer. With more than 300 people in attendance, including more than 30 judges, the event was one of the most successful in the history of the Atlanta Chapter.

Broward County

On June 25, the Broward County Chapter held its Summer Associates' Day at Court event, which was a rousing success. The program, attended by more than 35 summer associates, included a breakfast with the judges, attendance at civil and criminal hearings,

and participation at a question-and-answer session with the assistant U.S. attorney and the public defender. **TFL**

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