

Honors and Awards

The Federal Bar Association Banking Law Committee presented **John D. Hawke Jr.**, of Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C., with the 2008 Richard Peterson Award on Nov. 18.

Hawke's previous positions include general counsel to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Board; Undersecretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance; a director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation; and Comptroller of the Currency.

Hawke has also taught banking law at Georgetown University Law Center and the Morin Center for Banking Law Studies at Boston University School of Law, where he currently serves as chairman of the Board of Advisors.

Practitioner's News

Diane B. Bratvold of Briggs and Morgan in Minneapolis has been appointed to the Defense Research Institute's (DRI) Amicus Committee. This committee arranges for the filing of amicus briefs in cases pending before state and federal appellate courts, and reviews member petitions for DRI participation. ... **Robert J. DeSousa** of Harrisburg, Pa., has joined R.E. Harper Associates LLC as general counsel. DeSousa was formerly chief executive officer of Vartan Group Inc. and is a member of the FBA Board of Directors. ... **Michael A. Morse** and **Marc S. Raspanti**, partners in Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP, spoke at the 8th Annual Taxpayers Against Fraud Education Fund

Conference, held in Washington, D.C., Sept. 7-10. Their presentation, "Fleshing Out Your Complaint, Obtaining Evidence: A Case Study," focused on the development of a false claims case. ... **Kirk Van Brunt** has joined Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell as a partner based in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. His focus is on insurance companies and insurance products. ... **Hon. William W. "Billy" Wilkins**, Ronald Reagan's first selection to the federal bench and the former chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, has joined Nexsen Pruet as a partner in the firm's Greenville, S.C., office. He will lead the firm's White-Collar Crime, Appellate Advocacy, and Corporate Compliance/Crisis Management practice groups.

Save the Date — April 2-3, 2009



For the first time in its history, the annual Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference will take place in a tribal community just outside of Santa Fe, N.M., at Pojoaque Pueblo's Buffalo Thunder Resort. We celebrate this historic move as an opportunity for reflection on the relationship between federal Indian law and Indian communities, particularly in an era of political change and promise.

Federal Indian law, with its assimilationist legacy, has not always promoted the best interests of Indian tribes. Today, however, grassroots movements in Indian Country

inspire tribal advocacy before all three branches of federal government. Tribes are positioned like never before to shape the law that affects tribal people, resources, and values.

The 2009 conference will examine these issues through discussions on reservation-based economies, renewable energy, religious freedoms, environmental regulation, legal ethics, Supreme Court litigation, and gaming. Other panels will address opportunities for tribes to use the law as a tool in revitalizing Indian communities, particularly in light of the new Presidential administration.

More details to come. For more information, contact Adrienne at awoolley@fedbar.org, Kate at kfaenza@fedbar.org, or call (571) 481-9100.



34th Annual Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference "Coming Home to Indian Country"