

**Government Contracts Section**

On March 4–6, the Government Contracts Section co-sponsored the 16th Annual Federal Procurement Institute in Annapolis, Md. The title of this year’s event was “Shifting the Plates of the Acquisition System: Investigations, Oversight and Transparency—A Seismic Event or Just Another Tremor?”

On March 12, the section sponsored a luncheon and a panel discussion focusing on hot topics in the General Services Administration’s contracting. The panel included John Howell, of Sullivan & Worcester; David Drabkin, chief acquisitions officer, U.S. General Services Administration; Robert Bourne, director, MAS Program Office, Office of Acquisition Management, Federal Acquisition Service; Carolyn Alston, general counsel, Washington Management Group; Susan B. Haeseler, director, Raytheon IDIQ Team and Service Center; and Raymond C. Moehler, of the Raytheon IDIQ Team and Service Center. The event was hosted by Sullivan and Worcester.

On March 29, the section sponsored a luncheon program in the Tayloe Living Room of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. The panel, entitled “Court of Federal Claims: Best Practices and Procedural Overview,” featured three judges on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims: Chief Judge Emily C. Hewitt, Judge Marion Blank Horn, and Judge Lynn Bush. Other



**Government Contracts Section:** At the 16th Annual Federal Procurement Institute—(l to r) John Ordway, section board member; Matt McGrath, section chair; and Jerry Miles, section chair-elect.

panelists were Domenique Kirchner, senior trial attorney, Commercial Litigation Office, U.S. Department of Justice; D. Joe Smith, partner at the firm of Smith, Pachter, and McWhorter; and E. Sander-son Hoe, partner at the firm of McKenna, Long and Aldridge.

**Section on Taxation**

The 34rd Annual Tax Law Conference was held on March 5 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Highlights of the conference included remarks by

William Wilkins, chief counsel for the Internal Revenue Service; Thomas Barthold, chief of staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation; and Hon. Francis Allegra, of the U.S. Court of Claims. Attendees received an update on tax legislation from chief tax counsels for the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees.

Concurrent sessions throughout the day focused on critical developments in the following areas: employee benefits

**SECTIONS** *continued on page 12*



**Section on Taxation:** At the 34th Annual Tax Law Conference—(left photo, l to r) Conference chairs Jennifer S. Acuña, White & Case LLP, and Stephen A. Sherman, Department of Justice, Tax Division; Thomas Harvey, second-place winner in the writing competition; Charlotte Erdmann, winner of the writing competition; Jimmy Kroger, section secretary; Martin Milner, section treasurer; Kari Larson, section chair; and Teresa Trissell, section board member; (right photo, l to r) Bill Elwell, U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division; Fred T. Goldberg, partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, and former commissioner of Internal Revenue and assistant secretary for tax policy and winner of the 2010 Kenneth H. Liles Award; and Fred Murray, Grant Thornton LLP.



**Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section:** At the question-and-answer session held at the Department of Transportation's headquarters in March—(left photo, l to r) Nancy Kessler, chair, Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section; Robert S. Rivkin, general counsel, U.S. Department of Transportation; Monica Hargrove-Kemp, treasurer, Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section; James Fisher, deputy chair, Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section; (right photo, l to r) Rosalind Roman, law librarian, U.S. Department of Transportation, and Nancy Kessler, chair, Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section

and executive compensation, domestic corporate tax, international tax, tax practice and procedure, partnerships and pass-throughs, tax accounting, and financial products. In addition, the winners of this year's FBA tax writing competition—Charlotte Erdmann (first place) and Thomas Harvey (second place)—were announced. Following the conference, a reception was held to honor the winner of the 2010 Kenneth H. Liles Award, Fred T. Goldberg Jr., of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and former commissioner of Internal Revenue and assistant secretary for tax policy.

This year's Tax Law Conference was chaired by Jennifer S. Acuña of White & Case LLP and Stephen A. Sherman of the

Department of Justice, Tax Division.

The 2010 conference would not have been possible without the generous support of many sponsors, including elite sponsors: Baker & Hostetler; Bingham McCutchen LLP; Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC; Caplin & Drysdale Chartered; Crowell & Moring LLP; Dewey and LeBoeuf LLP; KPMG LLP; Mayer Brown LLP; Miller & Chevalier Chartered; Morrison & Foerster LLP; Paul Hastings; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom; and White & Case LLP. The Section on Taxation would like to thank the sponsors for their continued support.

**Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section**

On March 20, the Transportation and

Transportation Security Law Section held an informal question-and answer session with Robert S. Rivkin, general counsel for the U.S. Department of Transportation. The session was held at DOT headquarters. In addition, the section honored Rosalind Roman, the DOT law librarian, presenting her with a plaque for her dedicated service to transportation attorneys. **TFL**

*Sections and Divisions is compiled by Adrienne Woolley, FBA manager of sections and divisions. Send your section or division information and photos to [awoolley@fedbar.org](mailto:awoolley@fedbar.org) or Sections and Divisions, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.*



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