

THIRD CIRCUIT

**Delaware**

On Feb. 12, the Delaware Chapter braved the remnants of yet another nor'easter blizzard and hosted a special evening to commemorate Hon. Walter K. Stapleton's 40 years of exemplary service as a federal judge. The event, held at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington, Del., drew together approximately 300 guests, including Judge Stapleton's family and friends, members of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the District and Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Delaware, members of Delaware's judiciary; practitioners in the state, and approximately 45 of Judge Stapleton's former law clerks. The special event was made possible through the generosity of numerous Wilmington law firms as well as the District Court Fund for the District of Delaware.

The evening honored Judge Stapleton's 25 years of service as a circuit judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit as well as his 15 years of service as a district judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware. During the event, those in attendance viewed video greetings and congratulations from Hon. John G. Roberts Jr., chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and Hon. David H. Souter, the recently retired associate justice of the Supreme Court.



**Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky:** At the annual Winter Luncheon on Feb. 10 featuring Raymond Dowd, vice president for the Second Circuit, whose presentation was titled "Murder, Mystery and Egon Schiele's *Dead City*." Chief Judge Susan Diott of the Southern District of Ohio introduced the program—(l to r) Michael Newman, vice president for the Sixth Circuit; Paige Ellerman, chapter president; and Raymond Dowd.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a film entitled "The Jury Is In: A Tribute to the Honorable Walter K. Stapleton." The film was based on interviews with 29 colleagues and former law clerks of Judge Stapleton, all of whom uniformly extolled Judge Stapleton's impeccable reputation as a jurist, mentor, and friend. Hon. Brett M. Kavanaugh, circuit judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and a former law

clerk to Judge Stapleton, delivered the keynote address. At the conclusion of the event, the FBA presented Judge Stapleton with an original map of the state of Delaware from 1841 as a way to honor his lengthy and dedicated service to the federal judiciary in the first state.

Prior to the dinner, the FBA hosted a CLE program on appellate advocacy. The program included a judicial round table featuring Hon. Theodore A.



**Delaware Chapter:** At the round table discussion held during the Appellate Advocacy CLE program on Feb. 12 (left photo, l to r)—J. Michael Jakes, Hon. Theodore A. McKee, Hon. Thomas L. Ambro, and Keith M. Rosen (moderator); At the special event honoring Circuit Judge Walter K. Stapleton for 40 years of exemplary service as a federal judge (right photo, l to r) Hon. Thomas L. Ambro, who assumed Judge Stapleton's seat on the Third Circuit when Judge Stapleton became a senior judge, Anne Shea Gaza, chapter president, who presented an original map of Delaware from 1841 to Hon. Walter K. Stapleton; and Hon. Gregory M. Sleet, chief judge for the District of Delaware.



**Mississippi Chapter:** At its bimonthly luncheon in Jackson, Miss.—(l to r) Ben Watson, chapter president; Judge E. Grady Jolly Jr.; and Jim Rosenblatt, chapter secretary and dean of the Mississippi College School of Law.



**Tampa Bay Chapter:** (top photo) At the investiture of U.S. District Judge Charlene E. Honeywell, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida; (bottom photo) at the investiture of U.S. Magistrate Judge Anthony E. Porcelli, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

McKee and Hon. Thomas L. Ambro, both circuit judges on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. The judges discussed appellate practice in the Third Circuit and gave helpful practice tips for improving written and oral appellate advocacy.

The program also included a presentation entitled “*Bilski v. Kappos*: The Future of Patent Litigation,” in which J. Michael Jakes of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP discussed his experiences arguing the landmark patent case *Bilski v. Kappos* before the U.S. Supreme Court. In addition, the program featured a session, “Appellate Law Year in Review,” in which Karen E. Keller of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP, Drewry Nash Fennell of the Delaware chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Keith M. Rosen of the U.S. attorney’s office for the District of Delaware provided updates regarding recent developments in the law in the areas of intellectual property, civil rights, and criminal law, respectively.

The CLE program on appellate advocacy was the eighth CLE program co-sponsored by the FBA and the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware in the past three years. The FBA and the district court have co-sponsored programs on trial advocacy and evidence, the role of Delaware’s counsel in federal court, ethics, criminal law, bankruptcy, and appellate advocacy.

Beginning this May, the FBA and the district court will co-sponsor an innovative federal trial practice seminar, in which 12 attorneys from Delaware will be afforded the opportunity to take part in a two-month intensive trial advocacy course held at the district court.

#### FOURTH CIRCUIT

##### Richmond

In February, the newly reactivated Richmond Chapter hosted a reception for the U.S. District Court and U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Richmond Divisions) at the new courthouse. More than 80 judges, lawyers, and court staff attended the event, which was held in the grand lobby of the building. Collin Hite, president of the chapter, Chief District Judge James Spencer, and Bankruptcy Judge Kevin Huennekens provided remarks to the audience.

#### FIFTH CIRCUIT

##### Mississippi

Hon. E. Grady Jolly Jr. addressed more than 50 members of the Mississippi Chapter at the chapter’s bimonthly meeting, which was held at the Capital Club. Judge Jolly serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and was introduced by Chapter President Ben Watson of the Butler Snow law firm. In his remarks, Judge Jolly

traced the line of chief judges for the Fifth Circuit.

#### ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

##### Atlanta

On Feb. 9, the Atlanta Chapter celebrated its 20th year of presenting the Robert S. Vance Forum on the Bill of Rights with a remarkable panel that held a debate, entitled “Hillary the Movie: The Final Act for Campaign Finance Reform?” Panelists discussing the topic included Professor Michael Kang of the Emory University School of Law, Michael Boos of Citizens United, Scott Nelson of Public Citizen Litigation Group, Stefan Passantino of McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, and Denis O’Hayer of WABE 90.1 FM, who served as moderator. Boos and Nelson were two of the advocates who par-

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ticipated in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* litigation.

The Atlanta Chapter hosted its third annual “Technology in the Northern District Courtroom” event, which consisted of two sold-out seminars. Hon. Michael J. Reagan, district judge for the Southern District of Illinois, shared his insights and experiences involving technology in the federal courtroom. He also demonstrated how technology can promote efficiency from the bench. Other presenters included Assistant U.S. Attorney Doug Gilfillan, Paralegal Specialist Marti Goldring, and Court Technology Specialist Mark Allen.

#### **Tampa Bay**

The Tampa Bay Chapter was honored to have participated in the investi-

tures of Hon. Charlene E. Honeywell as a U.S. district judge and Hon. Anthony E. Porcelli as a U.S. magistrate judge for the Middle District of Florida.

The chapter presented Judge Honeywell with a gavel during her investiture ceremony. President Obama appointed Judge Honeywell to the bench in November 2009; prior to that appointment, Judge Honeywell served as a circuit judge for the 13th Judicial Circuit in Tampa. She was appointed to that position by Gov. Jeb Bush in 2000. Judge Honeywell previously served in the Tallahassee Public Defender’s Office, as an appellate attorney and trial attorney, as an assistant public defender in the Tampa Public Defender’s Office, as an assistant city attorney for the city of Tampa, and as a litigation attorney

and shareholder at a Tampa law firm.

Judge Porcelli was presented with a robe during his investiture ceremony. Judge Porcelli was selected by the district court judges for the Middle District of Florida from among 80 applicants in August 2009. Judge Porcelli previously served as assistant U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Florida. **TFL**

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*Chapter Exchange is compiled by Melissa Stevenson, FBA manager of chapters and circuits. Send your chapter information and photos to [mstevenson@fedbar.org](mailto:mstevenson@fedbar.org) or Chapter Exchange, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.*