Honors and Awards

Frederick R. Anderson of McKenna, Long, and Aldridge LLP was presented with the 2010 American Bar Association Award for Excellence in Environmental, Energy, and Resources Stewardship from the ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources on Friday, Oct. 1, at the section’s fall meeting held at the Sheraton New Orleans. Anderson was selected for this honor based on his sustained leadership and innovation in the development of the field of environmental law and policy for more than 40 years. … Two Brooks Kushman lawyers—Mark A. Cantor, president, and Frank A. Angileri, shareholder—were recently named to the 2011 Best Lawyers in America® list in intellectual property. This is the third time that Cantor has been honored and the fifth year Angileri has been named to the list. … Marc S. Raspanti, a partner with Pietragallo Gordon Alvano Bosick & Raspanti LLP, has been selected for inclusion in the 2011 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® in health care law. He has been listed for health care law since 2006. … Hon. Paul Wickham Schmidt, U.S. immigration judge in Arlington, Va., received the Lucia Russell Briggs Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from Lawrence University’s President Jill Beck during the Reunion Convocation in Appleton, Wisc., on June 19, 2010. Schmidt’s award citation stated: “In the 40 years since graduating from Lawrence, you have dedicated your career to ensuring justice for individuals coming to the United States with the hope of experiencing the American Dream.” … The American College of Trial Lawyers presented the Sandra Day O’Connor Jurist Award to Hon. Sam Sparks, U.S. district judge in Austin, Texas, on Sept. 25, 2010, at the college’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The award is given to a federal or state judge who has demonstrated exemplary judicial independence in the performance of his or her duties, sometimes in difficult or even dangerous circumstances. … In honor of a lifetime of service as a champion of justice, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association presented its first Lifetime Achievement Award to Justice John Paul Stevens, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States (ret.). Justice Stevens accepted the award and gave remarks at the association’s Exemplar Dinner and Reception on Oct. 6, 2010, held at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Practitioners’ News

Hon. Robert L. Echols, former chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, joined the Nashville office of Bass, Berry & Sims PLC following his retirement from the bench on July 22.

Letter to the Editor

I accept that even consumers of pornography—even consumers of child pornography—are entitled to their rights, but is it really worthy of a “sidebar” account in our publication? (The Federal Lawyer, October 2009)

If the subject of the film was just 4 feet 10 inches tall and weighed only 79 pounds so that a customs officer, two Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agents, and two pediatricians believed her to be a minor, then Carlos, the client and hero in the account, could not likely have believed otherwise, himself. He may have been vindicated by the fortuitous fact that she was a legal adult (19 years old), but that doesn’t reflect his state of mind in purchasing the DVDs. So while he avoided being classified as a sex offender by the legal system, he remains a predator of the type that designation is meant to identify. Regardless, his “ordeal” is hardly the inspiration I expect in The Federal Lawyer.

Daniel V. Flatten
Houston, Texas

Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section

On Sept. 28, the section hosted a networking social at the George Washington University School of Law for students from American University, Catholic University, Georgetown University, George Mason University, Howard University, and George Washington University law schools. After an introduction by Section Chair Nancy Kessler, students learned about careers in transportation and transportation security law from attorneys representing the Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the Department of Transportation’s Office of the General Counsel.