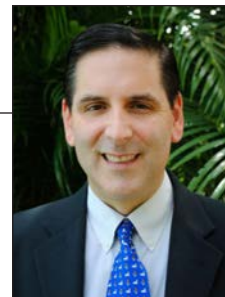


President's Message

by Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpí Jr.



Presidential Farewell

Dear FBA members:

This is my final president's message. It has been an enormous pleasure, and more important, a privilege, to have served in this capacity for the past year. I became a member of the Federal Bar Association (FBA) in 1992 at the behest of my father, Gus Sr., and my colleague and mentor, U.S. District Judge Juan M. Perez-Gimenez.

Professionally, this is one of the top decisions I have ever made. Over the past two decades, I have had the unique opportunity to work with many talented volunteers—both judges and attorneys—at the local and national levels, in support of the federal bench and bar, and more importantly, the public we all have served and continue to serve.

This year was a very exiting one for the FBA. First, the relentless efforts of our government relations committee, along with many other important voices nationwide, were successful in keeping our federal judiciary strong and our courts open. In addition, after a long battle of many years, federal judges' salaries were restored, assuring that future compensation will not be tied to political whims.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights and Criminal Justice Acts of 1964. Across the nation, our chapters held

events to commemorate these laws of paramount importance to our constitutional civil liberties. We also held our first national Women and the Law Conference in Washington, D.C. Our membership has continued to reach new heights, not only as to judges and practitioners, but as to law students as well.

As I step down, I am pleased to know that my FBA BFFs of many years, Matt Moreland, Mark Vincent, and Judge Mike Newman will be at the helm this upcoming year as president, president-elect, and treasurer, respectively. I have closely worked with all of them over the past decade and can attest to their sense of fiduciary duty, zealously, dedication, and enthusiasm toward our organization. I know I am leaving you in the best of hands.

As a final note, I must commend the editorial staff of *The Federal Lawyer* for continuing to do an excellent job each and every issue.

¡Muchas Gracias!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Gelpí Jr.', written in a cursive style.



Foundation of the FBA Memorials and Remembrances Gift Program

With a tax-deductible gift to the Foundation of the FBA, members of the legal profession, the public, business organizations, charitable trusts, or other foundations may create a memorial to a deceased person. Gifts may also be made in honor of someone, an anniversary, birthday, or any other occasion. Your gift helps fund educational and charitable programs that promote public understanding of the law and enhance the cause of justice. Learn more and donate at

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