

## President's Message

by Mark K. Vincent



### If You Want To Become Involved, There Is a Place for You in the FBA

I am honored and humbled to serve as the 88th president of the Federal Bar Association! Our association is made up of many dedicated, legally trained volunteers. Thank you for your confidence and support in me, and thank you for all of your dedicated service to the FBA.

I'd like to share with you my FBA story. Twenty years ago in a somewhat chance meeting, I joined the Federal Bar Association. Immediately I was privileged to begin my FBA experience by becoming an officer in my local chapter, ultimately rising up the ladder to chapter president. In 2000, I attended my first national FBA Annual Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. My, how my FBA world opened up! I didn't fully appreciate how much the FBA had to offer its members until Cleveland.

In 2001, I received a phone call from then FBA President Russell A. Del Toro inviting me to fill a vacancy as a circuit vice president for the Tenth Circuit. I accepted and enjoyed serving in that capacity for five years. My fellow circuit vice presidents were impressive, and we became fast friends as we, together, served the needs of the FBA chapters across the country.

In 2006, the governance structure of the FBA dramatically changed. We now had an executive committee and board of directors to lead the association. I was privileged to be elected to serve as a charter director on the board for four years. Again, my friendships within the association grew, my knowledge increased, and I continued to see the value the FBA provides to federal legal practitioners. Finally, in 2013 I was elected to the FBA Executive Committee. My

years as treasurer and president-elect have prepared me well for this next year, and I look forward to serving you.

I share my story with you because I find, as I visit with members of our association across the country, that my FBA experience is not unique. Those members who jump in and selflessly and gladly volunteer their time and talents toward improving the practice of federal law through the programs of the FBA have positive experiences. Moreover, FBA members find that if you want to become involved, there is a place at the table for you!

I invite you to accept my presidential challenge and actively engage yourself with the FBA. Whether it is with your local chapter, a section, or division, as an association of more than 17,000 members, there is plenty of work for all of us to accomplish. I promise you that as you engage, your benefits from being a member of the FBA will increase. Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Therefore, I look forward with great anticipation, enthusiasm, and confidence as we work together to move the Federal Bar Association to elevated heights. ☺

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark K. Vincent". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.