



## National Awards

### Several Awards Presented at the FBA Annual Meeting and Convention

At the 2016 Annual Meeting and Convention in Cleveland, section and division recognition awards were presented to:

- Bankruptcy Law Section
- Immigration Law Section
- International Law Section
- Labor & Employment Law Section
- Qui Tam Section
- Transportation and Transportation Security Law Section
- Robyn J. Spalter Outstanding Achievement Award

The namesake of the Outstanding Achievement Award is the late FBA National President Robyn J. Spalter, who embodied the essence of the award as she climbed the national leadership ladder to become an FBA president. “[She] always focused on the importance of new and younger lawyers and the role that they would play in the future growth of the FBA,” said Matthew B. Moreland, former FBA national president.

The primary goal of the Robyn J. Spalter

Outstanding Achievement Award is to encourage younger members of the federal bar to attain high standards of professionalism, demonstrate leadership throughout their career, and give back to the legal community. This year’s recipient, Allison Hughes Goddard, is very deserving and exemplifies everything that this award stands for and embodies. She was selected for her outstanding contributions to not only the FBA, but also to her community.

Goddard has practiced law in San Diego since graduating magna cum laude from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2000. She began her practice at the international law firm Cooley LLP, was a partner at Jaczko Goddard LLP, and is currently of counsel to Patterson Law Group. She represents consumers and employees in complex litigation and class actions and has helped recover more than \$100 million on their behalf. Goddard has been a leader in the FBA San Diego Chapter for more than a decade. She has held numerous positions in the chapter’s executive committee, including her service as chapter president in 2009. Goddard has raised a substantial amount of funds for the San Diego Chapter that have

Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section: The FAA UAS team is presented with a special award for their exceptional work over the past year.

been used to support membership drives, upgrade the chapter website, and launch innovative CLE programs such as an annual Women in the Law Conference. ☺

## Younger Federal Lawyer Awards

The primary goal of the Younger Federal Lawyer Awards is to encourage younger federal lawyers to attain high standards of professional achievement and to accord public recognition for outstanding performance. The program honors exceptional younger lawyers and those who support the Younger Lawyers Division. Any civilian or military attorney who is employed by the U.S. government is eligible to receive this award given to young lawyers who have worked most diligently in bar activities and/or law-related public activities and who have an excellent reputation for legal abilities and integrity.

The Younger Federal Lawyer Award recipients exhibit the utmost professional excellence, service to the profession and the bar, service to the community, and/or a reputation for or the advancement of legal ethics and professional responsibility. We are delighted to celebrate the accomplishments of L. Ashley Aull, Patrick P. Burke, Vincent A. Citro, Andrew Goetz, and Benjamin Hernandez-Stern!

Aull is the deputy chief of criminal appeals for the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Central District of California. She received her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Harvard College and her J.D. from Harvard Law School. She has led some of her office’s most important and complex appeals. In addition,



Immigration Leadership Luncheon: (l to r): Prakash Khatri, D.C. leadership luncheons chair; Elizabeth Stevens, Immigration Law Section secretary; David Shahoulian, deputy general counsel, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Patricia Ryan, D.C. Chapter board member; and Ozlem Barnard, D.C. Chapter member.

she has argued numerous precedent-setting cases regarding difficult areas of law, and she aggressively pursued government appeals where necessary to pursue justice.

Burke is a supervisory assistant U.S. attorney (AUSA) and chief of the Del Rio, Texas, office. While in Del Rio, he tried numerous cases including murder in aid of racketeering, RICO conspiracy, hostage taking, and drug and weapons smuggling. Before entering service with the Department of Justice (DOJ), he spent five years on active duty in the U.S. Army and saw combat in Afghanistan. He is currently a major in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Citro is an AUSA assigned to the DOJ's National Security Division, Counterterrorism Section, where he works with prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, and the intelligence community to develop and manage international, domestic, and cyber terrorism prosecutions. As an AUSA, Citro prosecuted the panoply of federal crimes, supervised criminal AUSAs in two offices, and oversaw the District's national security program.

Goetz is an AUSA and the deputy chief of the Appellate Division in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan. His practice primarily involves litigating and supervising appeals, and he has argued almost two dozen appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Goetz graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School.

Hernandez-Stern is an attorney adviser in the Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. He focuses on enforcement actions that arise from complaints alleging discrimination based on sex, race, color, national

origin, and disability. Hernandez-Stern is also a Major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He received his law degree from Stanford University and undergraduate degree from Brown University.

This year's award recipients add considerably to the association as a whole and demonstrate exceptional leadership in understanding federal law, administration of justice, and welfare of federal attorneys, as well as supporting and enhancing the FBA and its activities. We congratulate these exceptional younger lawyers on their well-deserved recognition! ☺

## Section on Taxation

### Meet and Greet with Judge John O. Colvin

On Sept. 26, 2016, the Section on Taxation held an event for U.S. Tax Court Judge John O. Colvin at 1095 Avenue of the Americas in New York City. Approximately 45 tax practitioners and tax LL.M. students attended the event. Judge Colvin shared information about

his experience serving on the U.S. Tax Court and also provided information regarding the court's opinion review process. After his remarks, Judge Colvin joined the networking reception for attendees.

## Immigration Law Section

### Immigration Leadership Monthly Luncheon Series with David Shahoulian

On Sept. 21, 2016, the D.C. Chapter and Immigration Law Section co-sponsored its Immigration Leadership Monthly Luncheon Series at Carmine's. David Shahoulian, deputy general counsel at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, spoke on immigration law and policy. ☺

## Labor & Employment Law Section

### 'Employment Law in a Nutshell' Travels to Oklahoma City

On Sept. 23, 2016, the Oklahoma City Chapter welcomed the Labor & Employment Section's traveling CLE team to present "Employment Law in a Nutshell." U.S. Magistrate Judge Suzanne Mitchell, the chapter's incoming president-elect and vice president of programs/outreach coordinator, introduced the talented panel, which included Brett Strand, 3M's legal affairs counsel in Minneapolis; Betsy Chestney, partner, Cornell, Smith, Mierl & Brutocao in Austin, Texas;



Panelists at "Employment Law in a Nutshell" CLE program, which was presented by the Oklahoma City Chapter on Sept. 23, 2016.



Top: Fed Litigation & Qui Tam Sections: One of several panel discussions at the Fed Litigation & Qui Tam Conference. Bottom: Fed Litigation & Qui Tam Sections: (l to r) Tara Lynn R. Zurawski, Darah Franklin, Chellis Neal Gonzalez, Vaishali Udupa, and Stacy E. Yeung present at the 2016 Fed Litigation & Qui Tam Conference.

Amber Hurst, partner, Hammons, Gowens, Hurst & Associates in Oklahoma City; and Josh Solberg, shareholder, McAfee & Taft PC in Oklahoma City. The panel presented a three-hour CLE program covering a variety of topics, including antidiscrimination, harassment, retaliation, DOL's new overtime rules, updates on the FLSA, FMLA, employee leave, timely wage payment obligations, and Oklahoma-specific laws and regulations. The event, held at the William J. Holloway Jr. Courthouse in the Western District of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City, hosted more than 40 attendees. The chapter held a social hour after the CLE at the Colcord Hotel's Flint Restaurant in Oklahoma City. ☺

## Fed Litigation & Qui Tam Sections

The 2016 Federal Litigation & Qui Tam Conference was held on Oct. 18 in Washington, D.C. Attendees enjoyed a welcome reception on the Jones Day Terrace with stunning views of the Capitol Building. In addition, the Federal Litigation & Qui Tam Sections planned and executed CLE sessions covering a variety of topics. A picture gallery of the event is available online at [www.fedbar.org/FLQTrecap](http://www.fedbar.org/FLQTrecap). ☺

## Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section

### 2016 Chief Counsels' Reception

On Oct. 13, 2016, over 75 individuals from both government and private practice gathered for the Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section's annual Chief Counsels' Reception in Washington, D.C.

The section recognized Sharon Vaughn-Fair, assistant chief counsel for the Federal Highway Administration, as the Transportation Lawyer of the Year. The section also recognized Christian Jordan, assistant chief counsel information programs for the Trans-

portation Security Administration, as the Transportation Security Lawyer of the Year. The Federal Aviation Administration's Unmanned Aircraft Systems team also received special recognition from the section for their exemplary work. ☺



Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section: Over 75 people attended this year's Chief Counsels' Reception in Washington, D.C. Bottom left: Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section: Christian Jordan accepts the award as the 2016 Transportation Security Lawyer of the Year. Bottom right: Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section: Sharon Vaughn-Fair accepts the award for 2016 Transportation Lawyer of the Year.