

MEET YOUR BOARD

Maria Z. Vathis • President



Maria Z. Vathis has been a dedicated and active member of the FBA since the beginning of her legal career. In 2002, she became a member of the Chicago Chapter's Board of Directors.

In 2004, she received the "Outstanding Service and Dedication Award" from the local chapter, and she served as editor of the Chicago Chapter's newsletter, which won an award from FBA National in 2005 for "Outstanding Newsletter." She also introduced a charitable component to the Chicago Chapter by organizing a cell phone drive to benefit victims of domestic violence and senior citizens in the Chicago area.

In 2006, she was elected treasurer of the Chicago Chapter, and, in successive years, served as secretary, second vice president, and first vice president. In 2010, she had the honor of becoming the youngest person to serve as president of the Chicago Chapter. The Chicago Chapter hosted a successful Annual Meeting and Convention during her term as Chicago Chapter president in 2011.

Vathis' service to the FBA includes serving as a board member from 2012 to 2015, serving two terms as one of the vice presidents of the Seventh Circuit, chairing the civics essay and video contest for the last two years, chairing the Audit Committee and Convention Committee, and being an active member of the Second Annual Women in the Law Planning Committee, the Nominations and Elections Committee, the 100th Anniversary Planning Committee, the Bench/Bar Committee, and the Task Force on Conventions. She looks forward to chairing the Social Events Committee for the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Vathis is a frequent speaker on FBA panels, including several chapter leadership training programs and the Women in the Law Panel at the annual meeting in Puerto Rico in 2013. Recently, Vathis appeared on the television show "Politics Tonight" on WGN-CLTV and on several radio shows to discuss the FBA's mission.

Vathis is an attorney at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP where she is a litigator representing corporate clients in business disputes and class actions involving statutory violations. She represents Fortune 500 companies and retailers in the United States and Europe.

Vathis is a frequent speaker at fashion law conferences, including FBA conferences in New York, Chicago, and Paris. She is very active in the community, holding positions such as president of the Hellenic Bar Association of Illinois and board member of the American Cancer Society's Associate Board of Ambassadors.

She received the "Lawyer of the Year" award from the Hellenic Bar Association in 2017. She was also selected for inclusion in *Chicago Magazine's* Super Lawyers Rising Stars list from 2009 to 2011 and was selected as one of the National Trial Lawyers' Top 100 Lawyers in Illinois for 2011. She looks forward to many more years of service to the FBA. ☺

Christian K. Adams • President-Elect



Christian K. Adams is the founder and managing partner at Adams Krek LLP headquartered in Honolulu, where he concentrates his practice on complex civil and appellate litigation. He received a B.A. from Clark University in Worcester, Mass., and a J.D. from the University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law in Honolulu,

where he was editor-in-chief of the *University of Hawaii Law Review* and subsequently served as an adjunct professor and lecturer in law on legal practice and appellate advocacy.

Prior to entering private practice, Adams served as a judicial law clerk to Hon. David A. Ezra, then chief judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii. He has served on the National FBA Board of Directors since 2011 and is a life fellow of the Foundation of the FBA. Adams has served in numerous leadership positions within the FBA at both the chapter and national level since 2006.

His past FBA chapter activities within the Hawaii Chapter include serving as YLD chair, as a national delegate, on the Annual Hawaii Conference Committee, and as its president from 2010 to 2011. Adams also served in every officer position within the National Younger Lawyers Division, including as its national chair from 2014 to 2015. Adams served as chair of the Sections and Divisions Council from 2015 to 2017 and co-chaired leadership training for incoming chapter, section, and division members during his tenure as council chair. He also serves on several Hawaii boards including the Arthritis foundation, GIFT Foundation, and Heart Start Hawaii Foundation. ☺

W. West Allen • Treasurer



W. West Allen is an intellectual property litigator and counselor in Las Vegas who represents a wide variety of international clients in federal courts. Allen most recently served as chair of the FBA's Government Relations Committee for more than six years and a member of the FBA's Board of Directors, serving two terms from 2011 to

2015 and from 2015 to 2018. In 2016, Allen received the FBA's President's Award for long-standing service to the FBA as chair of its Government Relations Committee.

Allen served as an FBA circuit vice president (CVP) for the Ninth Circuit, where he assisted in the development of 16 FBA chapters from 2007 to 2013. During this time, Allen was twice elected to serve as the chair of the circuit vice presidents. In 2013, while serving as Government Relations Committee chair, Allen testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee regarding the effect of sequestration on the federal courts. He helped institute the FBA's annual "Capitol Hill

Day,” and taught at the FBA’s annual leadership training. Prior to serving as an FBA national officer, Allen was the Nevada Chapter president from 2000 to 2001 and co-chair of the 2006 FBA National Convention held in Las Vegas, which initiated the FBA’s new governance structure. Allen has been a life fellow with the FBA since 2009.

Over the years, Allen has worked with many FBA leaders and committees. He was appointed to serve on the FBA’s National Council from 2001 to 2007. He has served as a member of the Government Relations Committee; the FBA 100th Anniversary Planning Committee; the Nomination and Elections Committee; the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules & Resolutions Committee (to update the FBA’s governance structure); the Chapter Activity Fund Committee; and various national audit, finance, and special task force groups while serving on the Board of Directors.

Allen is a partner with the national law firm of Howard & Howard PLLC. Previously, Allen was a partner for over a decade with Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie, where he served on the firm’s governing executive committee. In Nevada, Allen founded the Nevada State Bar’s Intellectual Property Section and served as that section’s first chair in 2004. Beginning in 2005, Allen was appointed by the chief judge of the U.S. District Court District of Nevada to serve on the Civil Rules Standing Committee on the Local Rules. He was reappointed to this committee by the chief judge in 2009 and in 2011 and drafted Nevada’s local patent rules for the District of Nevada. In 2010, 2016, and 2018, Allen was appointed by Nevada’s federal district judges to serve on the court’s Merit Selection Panel for Appointment and Reappointment of U.S. Magistrate Judges.

Within the local community, Allen has served since 2008 on the Board of Directors for Opportunity Village, Nevada’s premier charity assisting those with intellectual disabilities. He is a volunteer Child Advocate Program attorney with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and serves on the Advisory Board for Humanitarian Experience for Youth, an international youth service project organization. ☉

GROUP ONE

Jonathan O. Hafen



Jonathan O. Hafen has extensive experience representing clients in federal and state courts. He has been widely praised by clients and peers for his skilled and efficient approach to litigation. As a trial lawyer, Hafen handles a wide variety of litigation, including cases in the areas of securities and investment law, employment law,

breach of contract, property disputes, road and access cases, intellectual property, medical devices, pharmaceutical products, disputes over ownership and control of businesses, class actions, and construction law. Hafen also serves as legal counsel to a number of small, midsize, and multinational companies, utilizing the significant resources available at Parr Brown to address the broad spectrum of legal challenges routinely confronting business leaders.

Hafen is heavily involved in work for charitable organizations, and currently serves as chairman of the board of Tuacahn Center for the Arts and for Tuacahn High School for the Performing Arts, which is one of Utah’s first and most successful charter schools. He supports

numerous professional organizations, holding leadership positions with the Federal Bar Association, the Utah State Bar Litigation Section, BYU Alumni Association, BYU Law School Alumni Association, and the J. Reuben Clark Law Society. He has served for a number of years on the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure. ☉

Andrew K. Clark



Andrew K. Clark is an equity partner at LeClairRyan PLLC in Richmond, Va. The focus of his practice is on all aspects of high-stakes business litigation in both state and federal court, including commercial and contract disputes, construction and mechanic’s lien disputes, personal injury and wrongful death prosecution and

defense, insurance coverage disputes, estate and trust disputes, and other general civil matters. He also represent business and individual clients in professional liability matters in the area of financial services, including representing clients in FINRA arbitration proceedings. Clark’s practice also includes matters before various state and federal appellate courts, including serving as lead counsel in several appeals to the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Clark has been an active member of the FBA since 2001 and has served in the following leadership positions:

- Richmond Chapter president, 2004-2005 and 2010-2011. In 2009, he helped re-establish the Richmond Chapter by putting in place a leadership structure that reinvigorated Richmond Chapter into an active FBA chapter and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Richmond Chapter.
- Moderator at the 2012 Chapter Leadership Training Program.
- Participant in the FBA Chapter Leadership Training Program, the Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony hosted by the FBA Younger Lawyers Division.
- Federal Litigation Section Board of Directors member, 2007-2013.
- FBA Chapter Activity Awards Committee member, 2012 and 2013. In 2014, he was selected by Hon. Gustavo A. Gelpi Jr., past national FBA president, to serve as chair of the Chapter Activity Fund Committee.
- Nominations and Elections Committee member, 2016. He was selected Mark K. Vincent, past national FBA president, to serve.
- Circuit vice president for the Fourth Circuit, 2011-2017. He also previously served on the FBA’s Community Outreach Committee.
- FBA Board of Directors member, 2017.

Clark is also actively involved in many civic and bar organizations within the Richmond community through his service on the Board of Directors for the Historical Society of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, the Board of Trustees for Historic Richmond, the Board of Directors of The American Documentary Film Fund, and as legal counsel to the Richmond Sports Backers. ☉

Karoline Mehalchick



Hon. Karoline Mehalchick is a U.S. magistrate judge in Scranton, Pa., where she was appointed to the bench of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania on July 15, 2013. Prior to joining the court, she was a partner with a small law firm in Clarks Summit, Pa., where she represented a broad range of clients in both state and

federal trial and appellate courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. She is a graduate of Schreyer Honors College of Pennsylvania State University (1998, B.S., geosciences) and Tulane University School of Law (2001, J.D.). After graduating from law school, she served as a law clerk to Hon. Trish Corbett, Court of Common Pleas of Lackawanna County. Judge Mehalchick was an adjunct professor at Marywood University from 2003 until 2012, where she taught Legal and Clinical Aspects of Health Care to graduate students studying nursing and health administration.

Judge Mehalchick has been active in the Federal Bar Association for over 10 years. She is a past president of the Middle District of Pennsylvania Chapter, previously serving as its secretary, vice president, and president-elect. She currently serves as the chapter's ECF Coordinator and Civics Liaison, and works closely with the chapter's community outreach chair to implement programs with local schools and the court. Judge Mehalchick served as a FBA Third Circuit vice president for five years. She is a judicial profiles editor for *The Federal Lawyer*, chairs the Bench Bar Committee, is a member of the Judiciary Division and the Community Outreach Committee, and has previously served on the Professional Ethics Committee.

Within her court, Judge Mehalchick serves as a co-chair of the Middle District of Pennsylvania's Prisoner Litigation Settlement Program, sits on the Criminal Law Committee, and recently served as a co-chair of the court's employee conference. She also serves on the Administrative Office of the U.S. Court's Magistrate Judges Advisory Group. Judge Mehalchick actively participates in the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession and is a member of the Executive Council of the Commission. She is also a past president of the Younger Lawyers Division of the Lackawanna Bar Association.

Beyond her work in the legal community, Judge Mehalchick sits on the comprehensive planning committee of the Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School in Scranton, is vice president of production for the Ballet Theatre of Scranton, and is president of the Board of Directors for the Abington Gators Swim Team. ☺

GROUP TWO

Kelly Titus Scalise



Kelly Titus Scalise has been a member of the Federal Bar Association for over 15 years and has served in a leadership role for all of those years. After joining the FBA in November 2001, Scalise became a board member of the Younger Lawyers Division (YLD) of the New Orleans Chapter. She entered the leadership ladder and became

chair of the YLD in 2005, overseeing the re-establishment of the YLD following Hurricane Katrina. While serving on the YLD board, she organized a CLE that brought in over 150 new members; participated in an event for high school students during which they visited oral arguments at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana; organized a program for law school students at the Eastern District, which also increased membership by over 100 members; and participated in public service projects, including a refurbishment of a police station after Hurricane Katrina.

In 2006, Scalise became a board member of the New Orleans Chapter. As a board member, she served on multiple committees, including CLE committees, policy committees, and planning committees. She served as the national liaison for the New Orleans Chapter from 2009 to 2011. In 2011, she was selected to serve as membership chair, thus entering the leadership ladder. While president-elect in 2015-2016, the New Orleans Chapter was awarded Chapter of the Year. As Chapter president, she established eight practice area committees, which provide substance and opportunities for engagement our members; conducted a gift card drive for the legal community affected by devastating floods in Louisiana; welcomed nearly 100 new lawyers as members; coordinated with national sections on CLE programming; and oversaw at least one CLE or special event per month.

In 2007, Scalise also became a member of the YLD National Board, joining the Thurgood Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition Committee and advancing to co-director. She chaired a CLE committee that presented the first YLD CLE program at Annual Convention in San Diego. In 2012-2013, she served as chair of the YLD, co-chairing the largest moot court completion. She received the 2013 Division Chair Award.

In 2013, Scalise co-founded the Admiralty Law Section with Howard McPherson, and is currently serving a two-year term as chair. As chair, she established a quarterly newsletter, organized three seminars, and steadily recruited members. She was a member of *The Federal Lawyer* editorial board, past co-chair of the Law Student Division Task Force, and past member of the Sections and Division Council. Scalise is a fellow of the FBA Foundation.

Scalise is a shareholder at Liskow & Lewis, practicing in maritime, oilfield, and indemnity issues as well as environmental and tort litigation. She has represented clients both as plaintiffs and defendants and tried cases in federal and state court. She serves on her firm's Diversity Committee. She is a frequent presenter on admiralty and insurance issues. She was nominated to "Top Lawyers" by *New Orleans Magazine*, Louisiana Super Lawyers, and Best Lawyers in America. She has also received the 2015 FBA President's Award.

Scalise is a member of the New Orleans Bar Association, having chaired several committees; Judge John C. Boutall American Inn of

Court; Women's Energy Network; Women's International Shipping & Trading Association; and fellow of Louisiana Law Foundation and American Bar Foundation. She is a member of the ABA Admiralty and Maritime Law Committee. She also volunteers at her children's school, St. Catherine of Siena. ☉

Vildan A. Teske



Vildan A. Teske is a founding partner of Teske, Katz, Kitzer & Rochel in Minneapolis. She has a national practice focused on complex and class litigation on behalf of consumers, employees, and service members. Teske is a frequent lecturer on consumer rights, class action litigation, and service member rights, and has testified

before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on access to justice in our court system. She joined the FBA in 1995 and has served in leadership roles at the chapter and national level since that time. Teske was honored to be selected as the first recipient of the FBA's Robyn Spalter Outstanding Achievement Award in 2013.

Shortly after joining the FBA and the Minnesota Chapter, she proposed and founded the chapter's Newer Lawyers Committee and was appointed its first chair. Since then she has served in several leadership capacities. She is currently co-vice president of Diversity and serves on the chapter's board of directors. Her work in founding the Newer Lawyers Committee led her to be appointed to the national Younger Lawyers Division (YLD) board in 1996-1997. Teske was then elected for each position on the YLD leadership ladder. She served as national chair of YLD in 2003-2004 and a member of one of the last national executive committees prior to the transition to the new FBA governing structure. She also chaired the YLD Shaw Public Service Grant for five years, worked on the Younger Federal Lawyer Award program, and the Supreme Court Admissions program as well as a number of initiatives. As chair of the YLD, she focused especially on working with each local chapter to start, or bolster, programming for younger attorneys and law students. This resulted in a number of chapters creating sections/committees for their younger attorneys.

In the last 23 years of her national FBA involvement, Teske chaired the Audit Committee; served on the Sections and Divisions Council, the Sarah T. Hughes Award Committee, the editorial board of *The Federal Lawyer*, the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and the Membership Committee; and was appointed to the first National Diversity Task Force and then the Special Committee on Diversity. She also served as parliamentarian of the national FBA and has been a member of the Federal Litigation Section, the Military and Veterans Law Section, and the Labor and Employment Section. Teske has served as an appointed member of the National Council for a number of years and was honored to be elected a fellow of the FBA Foundation. Teske is currently a national director of the FBA and serves on the Task Force on Younger Lawyer Courtroom Experience.

Teske received her law degree, cum laude, from the University of Minnesota Law School and her bachelors in business from the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management. She has served in leadership roles in several other bar associations and boards. She was also appointed to serve on the Federal Practice Committee for the U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, by the district's chief

judge. She was named to the Top 100 Minnesota Super Lawyers List by *Super Lawyers* magazine and has received recognition for her work on diversity and inclusion in the legal community by *Minnesota Lawyer*. ☉

John R. Thomas



John R. Thomas has significant experience representing individuals and businesses in a variety of civil and criminal litigation, as well as providing strategic advice in science policy and research administration matters. Thomas is a partner with Healy Hafemann Magee and lives in Roanoke, Va., with his wife and four children.

Thomas is a national leader in False Claims Act litigation, where whistleblowers uncover and report fraud against the government. He litigates cases throughout the country involving procurement fraud, health care fraud, medical device fraud, and grant fraud. Thomas is the founder and chair of the FBA Qui Tam Section and a frequent writer and speaker on the False Claims Act.

Thomas is also an experienced litigator in the criminal arena. He has served as both a prosecutor and defense counsel in a variety of federal and state actions, including contested trials involving financial crimes, government fraud, attempted murder, war crimes, complex classified litigation matters, crimes against children, drug offenses, firearms offenses, and theft of government property.

Thomas also has a special interest in science policy and research administration issues, and represents clients in a variety of research and science policy matters and other issues involving academic institutions. He is a contributor to the Retraction Watch blog and has published in *The Scientist* and other science media.

In addition to serving on the FBA Board of Directors, Thomas remains involved in the FBA Qui Tam Section and the Roanoke Chapter. Thomas is also the chair of the Public Service Task Force for 2018-2019.

Thomas is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and serves as a law of war instructor/adviser. In his previous billets, Thomas prosecuted and defended Marines in courts-martial, served as a deputy staff judge advocate, and deployed to Afghanistan as a battalion judge advocate, where he advised the battalion commander on the law of war and other operational law matters. ☉

GROUP THREE

Joseph S. Leventhal



Joseph S. Leventhal's experience and involvement with the FBA is significant, broad, and unique. Leventhal served as president of the San Diego Chapter in 2015. Under his leadership, the chapter increased membership by 29 percent (279 to 360), fundraising by 1,429 percent (\$3,500 to \$53,500), and social media engagement by

over 134 percent (222 connections to 552); launched a new email marketing platform (Benchmark) and two first-ever community

service events; held a record-breaking 22 CLE events, including the chapter's first-ever Women in the Law Conference (approximately 150 attendees), first annual all-day CLE session on competence, ethics, and elimination of bias, and the first-ever law student moot court competition; and created a government relations liaison and held its first-ever government relations event with Judiciary Committee member Rep. Darrell Issa. The chapter ended the year with a record high bank account balance, enabling it to continue to innovate and increase its relevancy to members.

At the national level of the FBA, he currently serves on the Community Service Committee and previously served as the chair of the Chapter Activity Fund Committee, the GRC, the SOLACE Committee, as a member of the Elections and Nominations Committee, and the board of the YLD. Leventhal previously served as chair of the National Convention Planning Committee for the FBA's 2012 Convention in San Diego. He also served as a San Diego Chapter Delegate to the Annual Meeting and Midyear Meeting of the Association numerous times. Finally, Leventhal previously served on the FBA's Sarah T. Hughes Civil Rights Award Committee for two years, most recently serving as chair of the committee. He is a life fellow of the Foundation of the FBA and a sustaining member of the association.

At the request of Chief Judge Moskowitz, he recently chaired the Southern District of California's 50th Anniversary Committee, which included several events throughout 2016. He previously co-chaired the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives for the Southern District of California. He recently agreed to chair the Southern District of California's Magistrate Judge Selection Committee. Outside of his volunteer work in the legal community, he serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Kids Included Together, an organization focused on training childcare providers how to include children with disabilities instead of simply accommodating such children. ☉

Hon. Robin E. Feder



Hon. Robin E. Feder (personal capacity) was appointed as an immigration judge by the U.S. Department of Justice in 2006. She is a past chair of the Board of Immigration Appeals Precedent Decision Committee. Before becoming an immigration judge, she was an assistant U.S. attorney at the U.S.

Attorney's Office, District of Rhode Island, where she also served as chief of the Civil Division. Judge Feder also served as an assistant attorney general and as chief of the Civil Division at the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General. She has served in a leadership capacity with the FBA since 2003 when she joined the board of the Rhode Island Chapter. From 2007 to 2009, she served as the chapter's president. She remains a member of the Rhode Island Chapter's board. She is also a past chair of the Immigration Law Section, which she joined in 2009. She served as chair during the 2014-2015 term. During her tenure, the section grew by 28 percent as she and section leadership reached out to law students, younger lawyers, and members of the nonprofit, public, and academic sectors, as well as attorneys in private practice; expanded the section's programming; and collaborated with chapters and other sections.

Judge Feder is also a member of the Judiciary Division and the

International Law Section. She has previously served on the FBA's Nominations and Elections Committee, its Budget Committee, the Section and Division Council's Bylaws Task Force, and on the FBA's Chapter Activity Fund. Her goal is for all FBA members to appreciate and understand how sections, divisions, and chapters can work together for their mutual benefit. ☉

Kevin A. Maxim



Kevin A. Maxim is the principal of The Maxim Law Firm P.C. in Atlanta. He litigated in national law firms for 14 years before forming The Maxim Law Firm roughly 10 years ago. The firm's litigation practice focuses on issues arising from contracts, real estate, the internet, fraud, insurance, and a gamut of business disputes

including those arising from restrictive covenants and trade secrets.

Maxim has been a member of the FBA since June 2005. He served on the FBA's Board of Directors between 2013 and 2016 and as general counsel during 2017-2018. He has chaired the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, and Resolutions and the Hon. Sarah T. Hughes Award Committees, and has served on the FBA Task Force on Nominations and Elections, on the National Convention Committee, as a Audit Committee member, and on the Budget & Finance Committee. He assisted in forming the FBA's Southern District of Georgia Chapter, and is a life fellow of the FBA Foundation.

Maxim is proud of his Atlanta Chapter roots. The chapter hosted the FBA's Annual Meeting & Convention in 2007 and 2017, and he was honored to chair the 2017 Atlanta Convention Planning Committee and to serve alongside so many dedicated and resourceful Atlanta FBA leaders. Maxim served as the Atlanta Chapter president in 2009-2010 and has continued to participate as a member of the chapter's advisory committee ever since.

Maxim served on the Board of Trustees of Atlanta's Fernbank Museum of Natural History from 2008 to 2016 and continues as an honorary trustee there. Maxim has served on the Atlanta Bar Association's Judicial Selection & Tenure Committee since 2016 and since 2012 as a volunteer practitioner participant in the semiannual Orientation to Professionalism Programs at the Emory University's School of Law. Since 2009, he has also served on the University of Cincinnati College of Engineering Dean's Advisory Council. In 2017, he began representing military veterans through the Georgia State Bar's Military and Veterans Legal Assistance Program.

Maxim graduated with a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Cincinnati in 1991 and from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1994. He has been honored to be designated a Georgia Super Lawyer since 2010 and as one of the Top 100 Georgia Super Lawyers since 2012.

Maxim lives in Midtown Atlanta with his wife, Adrienne, and son and daughter. ☉

Hon. Alison S. Bachus



Hon. Alison S. Bachus is entering her second year as a board member for the FBA. In her first year of board service, she chaired President Kip Bollin's Nominations and Elections Task Force, which examined the association's elections procedures. From 2012 to 2017, she served as a vice president for the Ninth Circuit. Bachus was chair of

the circuit vice presidents (CVP) for the 2016-2017 FBA year. Prior to her election as a CVP, she served as president of the Phoenix Chapter, where she has been a member of the board since 2007. She is also proud to be a fellow of the FBA Foundation.

From 2011 to 2016, she presented at every FBA national leadership training program and co-chaired the program in 2016. Bachus has served on many national committees, including government relations, membership, nominations and elections, and chapter activity awards, as well as various task forces. Bachus drafted the national sample membership plan, which is used as a model for chapters across the country for membership best practices. At the section level, she has been a member of the Federal Litigation Section and has served on its board. She was a speaker at the FBA's national Women in the Law Conference in Washington, D.C., in 2015.

Prior to her appointment to the Arizona state bench in late 2015, Bachus served as an assistant U.S. attorney for many years and as in-house counsel for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Arizona. She received various awards during her career as a federal litigator, including Cooperative Law Enforcement and Victims' Rights awards. Before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, she served as a law clerk for then-Chief U.S. District Judge Stephen M. McNamee.

Bachus currently serves on the boards for an Arizona organization serving children in foster care and the Law College Association of the University of Arizona's Rogers College of Law. She is a faculty member of Arizona's Bar Leadership Institute, working on bench/bar relations between the federal and state bars, and she is a member of the National Association of Women Judges and Arizona Women Lawyers Association. Prior to joining the bench, she served as a lawyer-representative for the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and on Arizona State Bar's Committee on Minorities and Women in the Law. Outside of legal organizations, Bachus volunteers with the Girl Scouts in Arizona. ☺

David A. Goodwin



David A. Goodwin is a member of Gustafson Gluek PLLC. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison (B.A., 2001) and DePaul University College of Law (J.D., 2006). Goodwin was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in 2006. His practice focuses on complex class action litigation, including antitrust, consumer protection, and civil

rights litigation.

Goodwin is also a board member of the Antitrust & Trade Regu-

lation Section, where he served as treasurer. He is also a past chair of the FBA Younger Lawyers Division Board of Directors, where he served on the Younger Federal Lawyers Committee. Goodwin also currently serves the Minnesota Chapter of the FBA as a board member, acting as the FBA Pro Se Project Liaison. The Pro Se Project is an award-winning initiative of the Minnesota Chapter that provides access to justice while easing demands on judicial dockets and providing attorneys with unique volunteer opportunities. Goodwin has also served the Minnesota Chapter as national delegate and a member of the chapter's Seminar Planning Committee.

In addition to the FBA, Goodwin is active in the Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA) where he is a council member and past co-chair of the MSBA's Consumer Litigation Section. He has been recognized as a Super Lawyer Rising Star from 2013-2017, as well as an MSBA North Star Lawyer for his pro bono service. ☺

Jessica R. Toplin



Jessica R. Toplin is a trial attorney in the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Toplin joined the DOJ in 2008 through the attorney general's honors program. She specializes in government contracts and federal employment litigation and represents various federal agencies

before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. Prior to joining the DOJ, Toplin served as a judicial law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. Toplin received a Bachelor of Business Administration from George Washington University and a Juris Doctor from George Washington University Law School.

Toplin has been active in the Younger Lawyers Division (YLD) and D.C. Chapter of the Federal Bar Association since 2011. She has been a member of the national YLD Board since 2011 and served as national YLD chair from 2017 to 2018. Toplin served on the D.C. Chapter board from 2011 to 2015 and founded its Younger Lawyers Section. Toplin planned and attended several national and local FBA events. She also spoke on panels at the national FBA conventions in San Diego and Atlanta.

Toplin serves on the FBA's Board of Directors in her personal capacity. Any views she expresses are her own and not those of the DOJ. ☺