Chapter Exchange

FIRST CIRCUIT
Massachusetts Chapter
Law of Wine Seminar
On Sept. 26, 2018, the Massachusetts Chapter co-hosted a Law of Wine seminar, which it had once before successfully held seven years earlier. District Court Judge Richard G. Sterns, a wine expert, examined the history of national and local alcohol laws, particularly as to wine. Then, a sommelier gave the participants a crash course in wines, along with a tasting of four diverse wines. Each participant received a copy of the ABA book The Little Red Book of Wine Law. Unlike most legal seminars, this one seemed to become even more enjoyable as the evening progressed.

THIRD CIRCUIT
Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Combatting the Opioid Crisis: A Panel Discussion
The opioid crisis has been ravaging communities across the nation in recent years and was responsible for nearly 50,000 overdose deaths in 2017. On Jan. 17, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania Chapter heard from a panel of state and federal government attorneys on how they work to combat this epidemic. The panel included Benjamin Field, divisional deputy city solicitor at the City of Philadelphia Law Department; Erica Bartlett, trial attorney at the Defender Association of Philadelphia; and Karen Marston, chief of the narcotics and organized crime unit at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.
FOURTH CIRCUIT
Hampton Roads Chapter
Introduction to Federal Courts Seminar and E.D. Va. Admission Ceremony
Since at least 1984, the Hampton Roads Chapter has annually hosted both an educational seminar intended to familiarize newly admitted members of the Virginia State Bar, and attorneys otherwise new to the area, with federal practice in our court, along with a group admission ceremony. This year, the Chapter continued this important tradition on Jan. 11. Attendees heard substantive, practical presentations from the chief U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, a U.S. magistrate judge, the supervisor of our division’s Clerk’s Office, an assistant federal public defender, and two young federal practitioners. At the conclusion of the seminar, President Katie Dougherty moved the admission of interested participants before a panel of six judges. A short reception allowed the new admittees to meet the judges and other speakers.

NINTH CIRCUIT
Alaska Chapter
Tools and Trends in Legal Research
On Jan. 15, the Alaska Chapter held a CLE on Tools and Trends in Legal Research. Anna Russell, the Anchorage Branch librarian for the Ninth Circuit, gave an informative and interesting presentation on current trends in legal research.

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