



Federal Bar Association

Strategic Framework

Revised January 2024

Our Mission

The mission of the Association is to strengthen the federal legal system and administration of justice by serving the interests and the needs of the Federal practitioner, both public and private, the federal judiciary and the public they serve.

Our Commitment

The Federal Bar Association is committed to:

- Engaging the Federal Bench and Bar across practice settings, localities, and demographic categories.
- Serving as a non-partisan advocate for the Federal Courts, the Rule of Law, and the Federal practice.
- Exemplifying excellence in leadership, programming, and communications.
- Providing community and connections that are diverse, inclusive, and welcoming.
- Investing our resources to maximize our impact and sustainability.

Our Vision

The Federal Bar Association is a growing and vibrant legal community where Federal practitioners, Judges, and legal professionals come together to pursue professional excellence and expertise and advance the administration of justice.

Advocacy • Networking • Leading • Learning

Strategic Priorities

Area of Focus One: Membership Development and Retention

The FBA is the primary voluntary bar association of choice for Federal practitioners and members of the Federal Bench.

We will accomplish this by:

1. Offering unique, valuable, and relevant programming and resources across practice setting, career stage, and area of practice that strengthens members' professional growth, expertise, and skill.
2. Creating community and connections that foster interaction, inclusivity, and belonging among the Bench and the Bar.

We will mark success by:

- Membership growth and increased retention rates.
- Increased participation by the Federal Bench, Clerks, and Agency practitioners.
- Law student transition to full membership.

Area of Focus Two: Chapter Support and Development

The FBA strengthens the capacity of its chapters to grow and serve their members and their communities.

We will accomplish this by:

1. Providing administrative support and technical resources.
2. Fostering chapter leadership development and recognition.
3. Connecting chapter leaders to programming and governance best practices and leader-to-leader learning.

We will mark success by:

- Chapter utilization of resources.
- Chapter participation in awards, grants, and leadership development programming.
- Growth in chapter membership

Area of Focus Three: Section and Division Growth and Sustainability

The FBA's sections and divisions provide distinctive opportunities for professional development, education, and peer-to-peer engagement.

We will accomplish this by:

1. Optimizing programming, leadership, and governance excellence.
2. Cultivating communications and connection among section and division members.
3. Facilitating collaboration among sections, divisions, and chapters.

We will mark success by:

- Member satisfaction with Section programming.
- Meaningful participation in Section activities.
- Streamlined and high-functioning governance and leadership across sections.

Area of Focus Four: Compelling and Impactful Communications

The FBA's communications increase awareness, understanding, and engagement among internal and external stakeholders.

We will do this by:

1. Ensuring that our communications are meaningful and targeted to a member's needs and interests.
2. Developing a strategic communications plan integrating our messaging and outreach across channels and audiences.
3. Increasing support for and visibility of our non-partisan role in safeguarding the independence of the judiciary and promoting public understanding of the law.

We will mark success by:

- Greater awareness and visibility among targeted audiences.
- Chapter support for advocacy efforts.
- Engagement with FBA communications channels.

Area of Focus Five: Impactful advocacy for the Federal Judicial System and the Rule of Law

The FBA's non-partisan advocacy and civics education efforts strengthen and support the Judicial Branch and the principles of justice and democracy.

We will do this by:

1. Furthering our legislative agenda, including leveraging grassroots and Chapter efforts.
2. Engaging with policymakers and stakeholders.
3. Maintaining public education outreach initiatives

We will mark success by:

- The legislative agenda moves forward.
- Impact on matters affecting Federal Judicial administration.
- The reach of educational programming.

Action Items for Success

Invest in staffing to support our priorities.

- a. Marketing, strategic communications, and advocacy support
- b. Chapter support
- c. Law student and young lawyer outreach
- d. Finance

Invest in technology.

- a. Membership CRM/AMS for timely, accurate data.
- b. Website
 - i. Content
 - ii. Portals
 - iii. Chapters, sections, and divisions

Review governance practices.

- a. Board committees
 - i. Future of the FBA (create)
 - ii. Finance and Governance (composition)
 - iii. Building fund reserve
- b. Circuit Vice-presidents
- c. Section structure and leadership succession planning

Set program, operations, and governance best practices and performance standards for FBA sections, including evaluating opportunities for restructuring, eliminating, or consolidating sections.

Evaluate existing practices, activities, and programs to ascertain alignment with priorities and objectives.

- a. At-large membership
- b. Chapter-only membership

Assess and revamp current member communications.

- a. The Federal Lawyer
- b. News and substantive E-communications
- b. Marketing

Revise and streamline internal chapter and section communications strategies to focus on substance and problem-solving rather than process.

Create a content, repurposing, development, and deployment strategy across entities and platforms.