



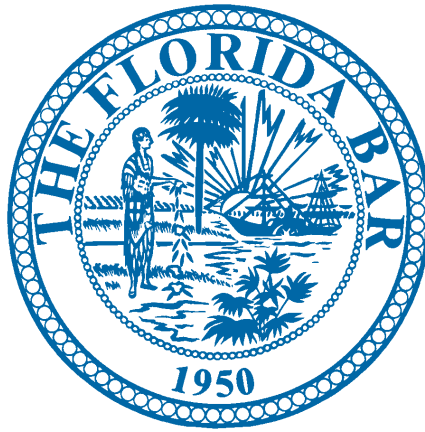
The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division



Getting Involved in The Florida Bar

**A Guide to Sections, Committees,
& Appointments**

The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division



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& Appointments**

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The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division
2006

CONGRATULATIONS in taking an affirmative step in educating yourself on getting involved in The Florida Bar and its various sections, committees and affiliates. By taking the time to read this piece, you have chosen to learn about the opportunities offered by The Florida Bar and what steps you need to take to become a part of its governance. This is a very important step and one you should take seriously. Half the battle of getting involved is simply knowing what opportunities are available to you.

This brochure is not intended, however, to be the end of your efforts, but rather a beginning. If, after reading these materials, you decide that you would like to become involved in a section or participate on a rules committee or join a voluntary bar association, take the next step to find out as much information about that section, committee or association as you can. Every group is run differently and has a path to the top that is unique to that organization. Knowing “the rules of the game” will make all the difference in your efforts.

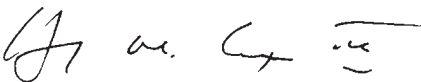
The Florida Bar and its various sections, committees and affiliates depend upon the selfless work of its members. This means all members and not just a select few. All members are welcome to participate to the extent they wish to do so. We welcome your participation and look forward to working with you soon!




Alan B. Bookman
President, the Florida Bar



Jamie Billotte Moses
President, Young Lawyers Division



Henry M. “Hank” Cox, III
President-elect, The Florida Bar



John M. Stewart
President-elect, Young Lawyers Division



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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE FLORIDA BAR

To many of the 75,000 plus members of The Florida Bar, in exchange for their dues, the organization offers a multitude of member services including:

- Regulating attorneys;
- Distributing regular publications such as *The Florida Bar News* and *The Florida Journal*;
- Representing lawyers views in the Florida legislature;
- Monitoring CLE credits and providing CLE opportunities to attorneys;
- Organization of the Annual Meeting; and,
- Hosting The Florida Bar website.

However, unbeknownst to many is that while The Florida Bar has permanent staff and offices in Tallahassee, it is also responsible for a number of other functions many of which are powered by volunteer attorneys such as you. The most prominently recognized of those positions are the members of the Board of Governors, however overall there are over 5,000 volunteer attorneys that contribute to and help create our 65 standing committees and 23 sections/divisions. Volunteer attorneys such as yourself help not only with policy decisions that impact our entire justice system but they help foster the ongoing learning environment required to stay abreast of the changes in the law and that help distinguish lawyers from other learned professions.

This guide to the organization is designed with several purposes in mind. First to provide a broad outline of the structure of The Florida Bar as it impacts its members. Second, this guide will provide effective contacts and information to allow for increased and more meaningful involvement between its members and The Florida Bar. Third, The Florida Bar recognizes that the starting point for all future leaders is with the local and specialty bar associations. To that end we have devoted a portion of this guide to help you realize the benefits of local involvement.

As this document is being prepared in a PDF format, we encourage any suggestions and recommendations you may have to help improve this product. This guide was prepared in large part with the assistance and contributions from volunteer attorneys and specifically with the contributions of the members of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar.



JUNE MCKINNEY-BARTELLE

I worked hard both in my practice and work with the voluntary bars associations always being true to my word and never taking on more than I was capable of doing. I made it a habit early on to inform people up front what my limitations were.

My first legal job at the Public Defenders' Office was most significant because I obtained first hand practical experience, helped others, and was provided a level of responsibility that gave me the confidence to practice in any legal arena.

I was president of BLSA at the University of Florida College of Law. It was only natural for me to join the Barristers, the African American local chapter in Tallahassee, after I graduated to continue the mentoring I had received during law school.

My path to the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL) presidency started with my active membership in the local chapter. I attended all the meetings and activities, started serving on committees, became a committee chair, officer and eventually held two terms as President of Tallahassee Women Lawyers. During my local chapter involvement, I started attending statewide meetings when I went to Florida Bar meetings. After my local chapter presidency, I became the FAWL Chapter Representative, ran for office and eventually became president.

My advice would include finding an area that interests you and volunteer. A good way to learn about The Florida Bar is to get to know your Board of Governors member(s) and voluntary bar leaders from your circuit because they are there to assist you and can help you understand the workings and benefits of the Bar.

I have made lifetime friends and feel that I have a resource in any legal practice area to contact if I need assistance.

CHAPTER 2

The Florida Bar: Mission & Structure

A guardian for the integrity of the legal profession, The Florida Bar is the state-wide professional organization of lawyers. It serves as an advocate and intermediary for attorneys, the courts and the public. Headquartered in Tallahassee, the Bar was established as a unified state bar by rule of the Supreme Court of Florida. Membership in The Florida Bar is a necessary component of Supreme Court regulation for all lawyers licensed to practice law in Florida. The foundation for the organization is built on a philosophy of equity and ethics. Through its programs and services, the Bar supports this philosophy with four pillars that function as the mission of The Florida Bar: providing public service, protecting rights, promoting professionalism and pursuing justice.

MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA BAR

The strength of any organization is derived from the support and participation of its members. As of December of 2005, The Florida Bar had over 75,000 active members and an additional 5,000 inactive members. Bar members in good standing are eligible to become involved in the activities of the 65 standing committees, the 23 sections/divisions and the elected Board of Governor positions. Much of the substantive work of The Florida Bar is derived from the joint efforts of these various volunteer groups. In addition to the standing committees, special committees and task forces are regularly created to study and make recommendations in response to issues of significance to the legal profession or system of laws in Florida.

It should be noted that in some of the historically popular and more powerful committees (e.g. Judicial Qualifying Committee and the Rules Committee) there are a limited number of appointed members each year. As a result, those seeking appointments may be selected based not only on their legal experience but on their prior track record and participation with other Florida Bar Committees or local bar associations. Although an applicant may not always receive a preferred committee each applicant is encouraged to apply to various committees of interest so that they can be afforded a greater chance to contribute. Thus, even if you do not get the appointment of your choice, membership in an alternate committee can make you a more attractive candidate in future applications.

THE PRESIDENT & THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is The Florida Bar's governing body. The Board consists of 52 members which serve without pay. More information on the Board of Governors is provided in Chapter 6.

The President of The Florida Bar is first elected as president-elect. After one year of service as president-elect, he or she automatically becomes president for

the following fiscal year that begins at the Bar's Annual Meeting typically held in June. The President conducts meetings, makes appointments to committees, commissions and task forces, and serves as the official spokesperson for the Bar and its Board of Governors.

SECTIONS & DIVISIONS

Through membership in any of the 23 sections/divisions, lawyers can focus their involvement in an area of law that is specific to their practice area. Section membership is voluntary and offers concentrated information and education in a specific area of law. Sections provide attorneys with access to other lawyers who share similar interests in a specific legal field. The sections are also involved in the production of specialized continuing legal education seminars and publications and the publication of newsletters or other materials covering their areas of professional interest. In contrast to the sections, The Florida Bar's two divisions, the Out-of-State Practitioners Division and the Young Lawyers Division, generally provide lawyers that are similarly situated with a forum to learn and interact with their colleagues. Membership in the Out-of-State Practitioners division is open to all who join, however, the Young Lawyers Division is limited to those that are under 36 years of age or that have been admitted to practice for less than 5 years.

COMMITTEES

The Florida Bar has 65 standing committees in five different categories that carry out different aspects of the bar's functions. Those groups of committees are as follows:

- Bar Services Committees
- Certification Committees
- Court Rules Committees
- Public Service Committees
- Substantive Law Committees

In addition, the Board of Governors, or the President with the consent of the Board, may create additional special committees, commissions or task forces to address specific topics. While these committees are not standing committees, the work of these committees is not always completed in the course of a year and may carry on for several years.



RAMÓN ABADIN

Immediate Past President of the Cuban American Bar Association, President of the Cuban American Bar Foundation and the general managing partner at Abadin Jaramillo Cook & Heffeman. In June of 2005, he was presented the G. Kirk Hass Humanitarian Award by 2004-05 President of the Florida Bar, Kelly Overstreet-Johnson, for his meritorious service to the legal profession in the State of Florida.

Being active in the various voluntary bar associations and the Bar is integral to being a successful attorney. I joined the Cuban American Bar Association (CABA) because it is an organization that is founded upon networking among Cuban Americans. CABA was founded by Cuban attorneys who were not able to get jobs in law firms and so they formed the organization to facilitate networking and the referral of legal matters among fellow Cubans.

Being a successful attorney is all about who you know and by participating in bar associations, young attorneys are able to meet and network among their peers, thereby forging relationships and building on their reputation in the legal community. It is also a great way to make long lasting friendships.

Active participation in the Florida Bar and its various Sections gives young attorneys not only the same opportunity to network, but also an opportunity to affect change in the Bar. The various Sections and Committees generate the rule changes that affect all of our various practices.

CHAPTER 3

The Bar's Sections & Divisions

BAR SECTIONS

Through section membership, lawyers can focus their efforts and involvement in the particular practice areas that are of significance and interest to them. Section membership offers concentrated information and education, and a ready group of other lawyers who share similar interest in a specific legal field. Many of our 75,000 plus members belong to one or more of the Bar's substantive law sections.

In particular, most sections offer their members the following benefits:

- Reduced fees for their section sponsored CLE programs;
- Networking opportunities with legal professionals that share similar interests;
- Mentoring;
- Periodic section publications; and last but not least,
- Forums for the discussion and exchange of ideas whereby the profession and that practice area may be further improved.

Each section has an executive council which is typically led by the Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer and the Immediate Past Chair. The composition of each executive council may vary as some of the smaller sections may combine the positions of Secretary and Treasurer into one, while the larger sections may appoint additional Directors and Committee chairs to their Executive Council. The Executive Council also includes an appointed member of the Board of Governors who serves as that section's Board Liaison.

Each section has a number of substantive and working committees. It is in these committees that the true success of the organization is often measured. The committees provide a fertile environment by which future leaders of the section and the Bar can get a start. In particular these committees range in breadth and depth and provide ample opportunities for newcomers to the profession or that practice area to get involved.

Finally, there is a Council of Sections which provides a forum for all the sections. Each section has two delegates on the Council, one of whom is always the Chair or Chair-Elect of the Section.

For more detailed information on each section including the available committees please refer to Appendix A. As of December 31, 2005, the following are the current Florida Bar's sections:

- Administrative Law
- Appellate Practice
- Business Law
- City, County & Local Government Law
- Criminal Law
- Elder Law
- Entertainment, Arts, & Sports Law
- Environmental & Land Use Law
- Equal Opportunities Law
- Family Law
- General Practice Solo & Small Firm
- Government Lawyer
- Health Law
- International Law
- Labor & Employment Law
- Practice, Management & Development
- Public Interest Law
- Real Property, Probate & Trust Law
- Tax
- Trial Lawyers
- Workers' Compensation Law

BAR DIVISIONS

In recognizing the special practice needs of young lawyers and those located out-of-state, The Florida Bar has two divisions that provide a forum for these lawyers, who regardless of practice area, are similarly situated.

The Out-of-State Practitioners Division provides an organization for all Florida Bar members who reside outside of the state of Florida. The Division focuses not on any specific practice area, but rather on the common interests and needs of out-of-state Florida Bar members as a whole. Membership in this division is not however limited to the location of the practice as any active member of The Florida Bar can join. The Out-of-State Practitioners Division has an executive council and approximately six standing committees.

The Florida Bar's Young Lawyers Division (YLD) is one of the most active entities in The Florida Bar. Comprised of Florida lawyers under the age of 36 or new Bar members in their first five years of practice, the YLD exists to support the goals and mission of The Florida Bar. A special emphasis is also placed on serving the public through a myriad of statewide and local community projects and activities. As mandated by the Florida Supreme Court, the YLD is specifically responsible for the Practicing With Professionalism seminars and the Basic Skills Level Courses. The structure of the Young Lawyers Division is modeled after the Board of Governors. The YLD Board of Governors consists of 40 young lawyers from each of the state's 20 circuits. In addition, approximately a dozen members may be added as ex-officio board members on an as-needed basis or to chair special projects. Much like the Board of Governors there are approximately 19 committees composed of members of the YLD Board.

For more detailed information on each of these two divisions including the available committees please refer to Appendix A.



JAMIE BILLOTTE MOSES

How did you first get involved in bar association activities?

I got involved with the Orange County Bar Association Young Lawyers Section (OCBA/YLS) as soon as I moved to Orlando. I attended a luncheon and immediately volunteered to serve on a committee. I had no idea how much work that committee was going to be, but it was a great opportunity to prove myself early on. I gradually got on the Executive Board, became an officer and eventually was elected President. Once I felt I could be a good representative of the young lawyers of the 9th Circuit, I ran for the Board of Governors of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar. Similar to the OCBA/YLS, I started at the committee level, worked hard and proved myself.

What was your most significant professional involvement?

To date, my current position as President of the Young Lawyers Division of The Florida Bar has been my most significant professional involvement. The opportunity to travel around the state and meet the young lawyers of the state has been so rewarding. Additionally, I have been privileged to serve on the Bar's Board of Governors. Participating at this level of leadership in The Bar has made me even more proud to be a member of The Florida Bar.

What do you recommend a young lawyer do to get involved in the Florida Bar?

There are several ways to get involved in The Florida Bar. One way is to be involved in your local bar association and let that serve as a lead-in to involvement in The Florida Bar. That's how I did it. I would recommend that young lawyers join a local bar association or one of the affiliate organizations and get involved in a committee. Starting at the committee level allows you to prove yourself to the organization and meet other members. By demonstrating your willingness to work on the group's projects, you show a commitment to the organization. Gradually, you will be given more responsibility. Depending on

what you want to do within the organization, you can go as far as you want in the leadership ranks. The biggest mistake a young lawyer could make is trying to run a group without working for the group first.

Another option is to join one of the many Sections of The Florida Bar. Similar to the local bar associations, there are many committees in the Sections and, therefore, many opportunities to get involved. There are no limits on section enrollment or involvement. Additionally, you can apply to serve on a Florida Bar committee. Some of these committees are difficult to get on given the prestige associated with them. As such, I would recommend that young lawyers consider applying for a committee other than the heavily sought after ones such as Evidence Rules. The rules committees, for example, are a great way to get involved and meet lawyers from all over the State.

Regardless, of what you decide to do make sure your involvement is meaningful. Don't just join a group for the sake of joining. Don't apply to be on a rules committee, but then miss all the meetings. Take the time, make the effort and you will be rewarded.

How have you benefited from your involvement in the bar?

My Bar involvement has been a great source of pride, friendship and business. I am proud to be a lawyer and I am especially proud to be a Florida lawyer. My bar work reinforces that every day and allows me to participate in the improvement of the profession. My bar involvement allows me to meet new people every day. I have made lifelong friends from being active in the bar and I will be forever grateful for that added benefit. Finally, my bar work has been my best source of referrals.

CHAPTER 4

The Bar's Committees and the Appointments Process

THREE CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

The Florida Bar has divided committees into three general categories, Board, Standing and Special. The Board of Governors has the authority under the by-laws to create such committees as it may deem advisable and necessary from time to time and to designate them as in any of the three previous categories. The Board of Governors may dissolve a committee when it deems that the work of the committee has been completed or is no longer necessary.

Standing Committees, as the name implies, continue their work from year to year and have been deemed to be of such importance as to be of a permanent nature. The Bar further divides the Standing Committees into five major categories. They are as follows:

- Bar Services Committees
- Certification Committees
- Court Rules Committees
- Public Service Committees
- Substantive Law Committees

Board Committees are composed exclusively of members of the Board of Governors. For further discussion on the work of those Committees see Chapter 6 regarding the Board of Governors.

Finally, The Florida Bar Bylaws allow for the creation of special committees, commissions or task forces whose focus or task is limited in scope and time to a particular issue. Special committees are appointed to study and make recommendations in response to issues of significance to the legal profession or system of laws in Florida. Special Committees are not bound to have their work completed within a year but they must be created with the consent of the Board of Governors.

THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Committee appointments are made by either the President or the President-Elect. Traditionally, the President-Elect will solicit applications on the website between December 1 and January 15 for the appointment of committees for the ensuing administrative year. In addition, there are openings throughout the year for special committees or to fill vacancies that may be created. The President-Elect shall report the membership of committees to the Board of Governors and shall, with the advice and consent of the Board of Governors, name and designate the chair and vice-chair of each committee.

A sample application is included in Appendix B. The application is relatively short in nature and can be completed in a few minutes. Of course as with any application, the more information provided, the better the likelihood that you will be considered. As there are a number of limited openings and the number of individuals seeking to be appointed exceeds the number of available positions, it is strongly suggested that applicants provide alternate committees of choice. Decisions regarding the appointments are usually issued by June 1st.

STANDING COMMITTEES

A more detailed description of the following committees is provided in Appendix C. Note that the committees below are divided by major categories:

Bar Services Committees (20)

- Advertising
- Annual Meeting
- Continuing Legal Education
- Federal Court Practice
- Florida Bar Center Commission
- Florida Bar Journal/News Editorial Board
- Grievance Mediation & Fee Arbitration
- Judicial Administration & Evaluation
- Judicial Independence, Committee on
- Judicial Nominating Procedures
- LOMAS Advisory Board
- Member Benefits
- Member Outreach Committee
- Pro Bono Legal Services
- Professional Ethics
- Professionalism, Committee on
- Quality of Life and Career
- Relations with Certified Public Accountants, Committee on
- Student Education & Admissions to the Bar
- Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee

Certification Committees (20)

- Admiralty & Maritime Law Certification
- Antitrust & Trade Regulation Law Certification
- Appellate Practice Certification
- Aviation Law Certification
- Board of Legal Specialization and Education
- Business Litigation Certification
- City County & Local Government Certification
- Civil Trial Law Certification
- Construction Law Certification

- Criminal Law Certification
- Elder Law Certification
- Health Law Certification
- Immigration & Nationality Law Certification
- International Law Certification
- Labor & Employment Law Certification
- Marital and Family Law Certification
- Real Estate Certification
- Tax Certification
- Wills Trusts & Estates Certification
- Workers Compensation Certification

Court Rules Committees (11)

- Appellate Court Rules
- Civil Procedure Rules
- Code & Rules of Evidence
- Criminal Procedure Rules
- Family Law Rules
- Florida Probate Rules
- Juvenile Court Rules
- Rules of Judicial Administration
- Small Claims Rules
- Traffic Court Rules
- Workers' Compensation Rules Advisory

Public Service Committees (8)

- Client's Security Fund
- Consumer Protection Law
- Law Related Education
- Lawyer Referral Service
- Legal Needs of Children
- Military Affairs
- Prepaid Legal Services
- Unlicensed Practice of Law

Substantive Law Committees (6)

- Admiralty Law
- Animal Law Committee
- Aviation Law
- Education Law
- Eminent Domain
- Media & Communications Law

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A more detailed description of the following special committees is provided in Appendix D. Note that the committees below were in existence as of the date of this publication but may be dissolved if they have completed their tasks or reports:

- Advertising Task Force
- Citizens Forum
- Special Commission on Lawyer Regulation
- Special Committee on Paralegal Regulation
- Special Committee to Review the ABA Model Rules
- Special Committee on Website Advertising Rules
- Supreme Court - Jury Instructions Committee (Criminal)
- Supreme Court - Standard Jury Instructions Committee (Civil)



BENJAMIN L. CRUMP

The most important thing for a young lawyer to do in order to grow in the leadership of the Florida Bar is to first become a very active member of a local voluntary bar association. While working diligently with that local voluntary bar association, the young lawyer should then strive to become active with the State Voluntary Bar Association of which the local chapter is a member. This will give the young lawyer an identity on the State level. In addition, the young lawyer should strive to become a state officer in that Voluntary Bar Association.

One of my most significant professional involvements with the Florida Bar is that I am the chairman of the Florida Bar's Diversity Symposium. Another significant professional involvement is that I am the past President of the Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association, which is the largest Voluntary Bar Association of lawyers of color. The NBA is given a non-voting seat on the Board of Governors. Anytime you get to interact with the Board of Governors, you should do so as a way to get mentors who will help foster your growth in the Florida Bar.

As an African-American lawyer, I felt it was vital to my survival as a lawyer to affiliate with other African American lawyers as much as possible. That way I could understand what was facing me as a Black lawyer in Florida as I embarked on my new career. A young lawyer should strive to belong to some organization because we all need to form relationships with our colleagues. Along with becoming a member of the Tallahassee Barristers Association (which is the local African American Bar), I became a member of the Tallahassee Bar Association, the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers Association, the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the Tallahassee Women's Lawyers Association.

I also believe that if you are going to be acknowledged as a Florida Lawyer, it is paramount that you get involved with the Florida Bar because you are going to

be governed by the Florida Bar. Even from an equitable perspective, you have to pay the Bar dues, and you should want to get the maximum amount of benefit for your payment.

I rose to my current position of leadership by trying to be effective in every position that I held so as to inspire confidence amongst my peers. Therefore, when it came time to run for President, my colleagues already knew my track record.

All young lawyers should immediately become members of their local bar organizations. They should sign up to work on and become chairs of the different standing committees. They should also work to build a good reputation amongst their colleagues. A good reputation is the most important thing a lawyer can possess.

You benefit in so many ways when you become an active member of the Florida Bar. When you attend the State Conventions, you get to meet others from around the state who work in your field. You also get the opportunity to work on standing committees that will affect the rules that govern your particular field. And lastly, I believe you get to become a part of the system, and that is truly the only way to make the system better.

CHAPTER 5

Special Appointments

On occasion, The Florida Bar is called upon to fill vacancies in a variety of special appointments that range from the selection of judges to the management of legal services organizations. These appointments are filled with the consent of The Florida Bar Board of Governors, the President of The Florida Bar or at times with the approval of the Governor. The ideal candidates for some of the appointments listed below are the senior members of the Bar that have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to Bar activities at various levels (local, state or national). A more detailed description of the following special appointments is provided in Appendix E. It should be noted that this list is not an exhaustive list of all of the appointments The Florida Bar has the authority to make:

- ABA House of Delegates
- Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference
- The Florida Bar Foundation Board of Directors
- Florida Board of Bar Examiners
- Florida Board of Bar Examiners- Joint Nominating Committee For Public Members (Board Members)
- Florida Lawyers Assistance, Inc. Board of Directors
- Florida Legislative Law Revision Council
- Florida Realtor-Attorney Joint Committee
- Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. Board of Directors
- Greater Orlando Area Legal Services
- Judicial Nominating Commissions for each of the 20 Circuits Statewide
- JNC Statewide Nominating Commission for Compensation Claims Judges
- Supreme Court's Bar Admissions Committee



WENDY S. LOQUASTO

What did you do to be where you are today?

I worked hard in various bar associations. I started out with a small voluntary bar association that I felt immediately comfortable in – Tallahassee Women Lawyers. I was admitted to practice in September 1988 and joined TWL in 1989. I was a regular member at the dinner meetings, which caused me to be noticed by the leadership, and I was asked to become TWL's first historian in 1991. It took me a couple of years to get the history done, during which time I interviewed all the past presidents and founding members, which allowed me to get to know a lot of women I would not have otherwise known. I went on to become Newsletter Editor (1993-94), Director (1995-96), and then President (1996-97). I continued my Historian role after being president and have served in a number of other capacities to stay involved. For instance, I was FAWL Chapter Representative (1996-97 & 1998-99) and now I am TWL Liaison to Legal Services of North Florida, Inc. (2004 to present). So, I started out in an appointed position, worked hard, and then moved up the ladder to the presidency, and then stayed involved to help mentor the upcoming leadership.

TWL provided me with the leadership opportunities to move into the leadership of other bar associations. For instance, as a board member of TWL, I was tapped by the leadership of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and was subsequently nominated and elected to be FAWL Secretary in 1995, which was the beginning of my statewide bar activity. I am currently serving as President-Elect and will be installed as President in June 2006. These leadership positions have also led to my involvement in the Florida Bar committees and sections.

Also, I chose to do projects for bar associations that were interesting to me. I like writing, so I wrote. I have a B.A. in History, so I did historical work for the bar associations. Choosing projects that interest me has made bar work fun.

So, to summarize, I started out with a small voluntary bar association that I felt

comforted with, I attended the meetings regularly and accepted assignments and positions offered by the leadership. I learned my leadership skills locally. Then I started in the same way to build myself at the statewide level.

How have you benefited from your involvement in the bar?

Yes, yes, yes! I've met many people, some of whom I put in the category of life-long friends. I've been able to build a good reputation through my bar activities that my former job as a law clerk would not have allowed. Now I have friends and contacts all over the state, which helps me to market and build my business as an appellate lawyer.

The simple truth of bar activities is that you get out of them what you put into them. If you take the time and make the effort to be active and get involved, you will reap the benefits. You can't just pay your dues and expect to benefit. It takes commitment too.

CHAPTER 6

The Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is the Bar's governing body. The 52-member Board consists of the president, president-elect, representatives elected by members of the Bar from each of the state's 20 judicial circuits (a total of 42), the president and president-elect of the Young Lawyers Division, four out-of-state representatives elected by Florida Bar members who reside outside the State of Florida, and two non-lawyer members of the public that are appointed by the Supreme Court of Florida. All Board members serve without pay, although the public members can be reimbursed for most of their travel expenses.

The Board has exclusive authority to formulate and adopt matters of policy concerning the activities of the Bar, subject to the limitations imposed by the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. The Board also selects the Executive Director of the Bar, who directs the overall administration of The Florida Bar. The full Board of Governors meets bimonthly. Committees, Sections or members of the Bar may submit topics to the President for inclusion on the agenda for Board meetings.

The Board of Governors has a number of established committees that assist the Board in their duties and functions. Membership in these committees is comprised of the current members of the Board of Governors. A more detailed description of the work of these committees is provided in Appendix F.

- Audit Committee
- Budget Committee
- Certification Plans Appeals
- Communications Committee
- Disciplinary Procedure Committee
- Disciplinary Review Committee
- Executive Committee
- Investment Committee
- Legislation Committee
- Program Evaluation Committee
- Review Committee On Professional Ethics
- Rules Committee
- Strategic Planning



FRANCISCO R. ANGONES

How did you first get involved in bar association activities?

I first became involved through the Dade County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. Shortly after graduating from the University of Miami Law School I was appointed to finish a term on their Board of Directors and enjoyed my contributions on that board. At the same time, I became involved with the Cuban American Bar Association (CABA). After completing my term on the Board of Directors for the Young Lawyers Division, I then chose to devote my energy to CABA but the Dade County Bar Association was where I got my start.

How did you rise to your current position of leadership?

After leaving the Young Lawyers Section, I served in CABA and eventually became President of CABA in 1982. However, all the while I remained involved with the Dade County Bar Association. I served as one of their directors beginning in 1985 and that eventually led to my election as President in 1993. From there I served on the ABA House of Delegates and that led to opportunities within the Florida Bar where I served on a number of committees and on the Board of Governors from 2000 to 2006 before being elected President-Elect for 2006-07.

What do you recommend a young lawyer do to get involved in the Florida Bar?

Begin at your local level as I did and remain involved. With hard work and perseverance you can accomplish what you set out to do. In this wonderful country there are always opportunities to serve and contribute. The bar associations, whether they be local or state, can facilitate those opportunities.

What has been your most significant professional involvement?

I have been fortunate to work on two cases of great significance to me personally and professionally. In the first, I, along with my fellow colleagues at CABA,

worked to assist the Cubans that had been intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard and detained at Guantanamo Bay in 1994. This occurred when President Clinton changed 35 years of prior U.S. policy towards Cuban exiles and instead substituted what has come to be known as the “wet foot dry foot” policy. Although we ultimately lost the battle, we won the war as we fought for their human rights. With the exception of those with criminal records, all of the individuals being detained were ultimately released and allowed to legally enter the United States.

In the second matter, I, along with six other wonderful lawyers, represented the families of American victims of Cuban terrorism. Among the victims was a high school friend of mine who had been shot down by the Cuban government while flying in international airspace on February 24, 1996. Through our efforts, we were able to obtain a judgment against the Cuban government, a sovereign nation, and garnish assets in the amount of \$96 million held in the United States for the benefit of the Cuban government from long distance telephone calls in satisfaction of that judgment.

How have you benefited from your involvement in the bar?

I have benefited immensely from my participation in bar activities. I consider my involvement a duty as a citizen and lawyer of this great state and I look forward to serving the citizens, the judiciary and the lawyers of Florida during my term of office as President of The Florida Bar. Having witnessed Castro’s dismantling of the judiciary including doing away with the right of habeas corpus, I am always mindful that we, as lawyers, must preserve the system of checks and balances between the different branches of government and thereby uphold those rights that our citizens believe to be inalienable. While the causes that lawyers pursue may not always be popular we must fight for the rights that so many have died to preserve.

CHAPTER 7

Local Bar Associations and Specialty Bar Organizations

The local bar associations is the place where most great bar leaders get their start. There are more than 200 voluntary bar associations in Florida that exist to provide services and programs for individual lawyers in a particular area or specialty or in some instances to complement the activities and functions of The Florida Bar. In addition, most local bar associations have young lawyers' sections that offer great opportunities for those under the age of 36 or within the first five years of practice to immediately get involved. As a reference guide, a comprehensive list of the local, regional and statewide bar associations is provided in Appendix G. For the most current information on any of these organizations you may also visit The Florida Bar's website.



TIFFANI LEE

What did you do to be where you are today?

Very early in my career, it was suggested to me by one of my mentors that organized bar work is one of the easiest ways to get to know others in the legal community, to build networks, to participate in projects to help the public, to develop leadership skills and to distinguish yourself as a lawyer and leader. I decided to invest time in developing relationships with other young lawyers, particularly with young lawyers outside my law firm. I joined a few local bar associations and two national bar associations, immediately got involved in committee work and public service projects, and slowly cultivated relationships that resulted in positions with significantly greater visibility, responsibility and opportunity.

What was your most significant professional involvement?

My most significant professional involvement has been my involvement in the Dade County Bar Young Lawyers Section (“DCBA/YLS”) and the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (“ABA/YLD”). Both organizations devote a lot of time and energy to public service, which is personally and professionally rewarding. I have had the good fortune to have chaired several committees within the DCBA/YLS and to serve as the 2005-06 President of the DCBA/YLS. In addition, I have coordinated national public service and professional development projects through the ABA/YLD. The opportunity to work on projects that benefit the public, particularly the otherwise disadvantaged, is something about which I am particularly proud.

How did you rise to your current position of leadership?

I am the current President of the DCBA/YLS. I first got involved with the DCBA/YLS through its Kids Club Committee, which plans monthly outings for kids in foster care. I love kids and thought the committee did good work, so I

volunteered to help. The following year, a position became vacant on the DCBA/YLS Board of Directors. Some of the directors who knew me through Kids Club and other charitable work suggested that I be elected to fill the vacancy. I was elected and began my board service as Chair of the Social Committee. I continued to serve on the Board for a few years, working on other committees, and then decided to run for Secretary. After Secretary, I was subsequently elected President-elect and then became President. Honestly, I'm not sure that I would have ever thought to run for the DCBA/YLS Board of Directors had it not been for my positive experience with the Kids Club Committee. Through that committee work, I learned about the other great projects and committees and decided to give it a try.

What do you recommend a young lawyer do to get involved in the Florida Bar?

To get involved with the Florida Bar, I simply applied for appointment to committees of interest and was fortunate enough to be appointed. I would recommend the same to any young lawyer. Join a committee, be an active member and start developing connections and relationships.

How have you benefited from your involvement in the bar?

There are numerous benefits to bar involvement, including developing opportunities for: lifelong friendships; expanding your referral network; public service to your community through bar sponsored projects; you to meet and cultivate relationships with "older and wiser" lawyers who can serve as great mentors; marketing yourself, your firm and your practice; and, you to distinguish and develop your leadership skills in your community.

APPENDIX A

Florida Bar Sections and Divisions

Introduction

Appendix A contains more in-depth information on each of the Florida Bar's twenty-one Sections and two Divisions. In particular, committees for each Section or Division are listed. For those seeking to serve on a Section's Executive Council, the committees provide a great opportunity to get started. More importantly, having in-depth knowledge of the substantive committee is not always required to get involved. In fact, most Sections have committees such as membership, publications, or website which are great opportunities for a new member of a Section to join. Publications committees, for example, offer participants an opportunity to edit the work of others and, in the process, learn more about that practice area. Website committees allow the participant to learn about all aspects of the Section or the Division in a relatively short period of time as they are responsible for ensuring the website is current and that all relevant materials are posted. Finally, the Membership committees typically plan for social events or other activities designed to keep or attract new members. Getting involved is as simple as filling out a membership application form and then contacting the Chair, the Chair-elect or the designated staff person for that Section or Division.

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Administrative Law Section

The Administrative Law Section is open to all members in good standing who have an interest in administrative law and procedure at both the state and federal levels. The Section provides a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas leading to the improvement and development of the fields of administrative law and procedure and agency practice. The Section serves the public generally and The Florida Bar in interpreting and carrying out the professional needs and objectives in these fields.

Members receive Section publications and are encouraged to participate in one of its committees. The Section offers opportunities to its members to network with other professionals with similar interests. Members of administrative boards, agency staff, law students, legal assistants, members of the legislature, legislative staff and other administrative personnel are encouraged to join as affiliate members.

DUES: Florida Bar Members and Law Students: \$25.00
Affiliate Members: \$25.00

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1977-78

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1195

COMMITTEES:

- o Agency Reporters
- o Bar Journal Coordinator
- o Casenotes
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Law School Writing Contest
- o Legislation
- o Long Range Planning
- o Membership
- o Newsletter Editor
- o Public Utilities
- o Publications
- o Uniform Rules
- o Webpage

LIAISONS:

- o Environmental Land Use Law Section
- o Florida Bar CLE Committee
- o Health Law Section

WEBSITE: <http://www.fladminlaw.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Deborah Kaveney Kearney - Debby.Kearney@myfloridahouse.gov

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Patrick L Imhof - imhof.booter@flsenate.gov

Appellate Practice Section

The Appellate Practice Section is devoted to promoting excellence in Florida's state and federal appellate courts. Its members include civil and criminal lawyers, plaintiff and defense lawyers, and others interested in the appellate process.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1993-94

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1,444

COMMITTEES:

- o Administrative Appellate Practice
- o Amicus Curiae
- o Appellate Certification Liaison
- o Appellate Mediation
- o Civil Appellate Practice
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Criminal Appellate Practice
- o Federal Appellate Practice
- o Government Lawyer
- o Leadership
- o Legislative
- o Membership
- o Mentor
- o Outreach
- o PASP
- o Pro Bono
- o Programs
- o Pro Se Handbook
- o Publications
- o Retreat
- o Self-Represented Litigant
- o Website

LIAISONS:

- o Appellate Court Liaison
- o Appellate Rules Committee Liaison

WEBSITE: <http://www.flabarappellate.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Thomas Dale Hall - hall@flcourts.org

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Susan Whaley Fox - susanfox@flappeal.com

Business Law Section

The Business Law Section serves Florida lawyers, judges and the faculty of its law schools. Its members share a common interest in laws affecting Florida's businesses, including corporate, contract, bankruptcy, franchise, antitrust, securities, and intellectual property law. The Section also addresses the process for resolving business disputes in Florida, including commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1970-71

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$40.00
Affiliate Members: \$30.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 4,429

COMMITTEES:

- o Antitrust, Franchise & Trade Regulations
- o Bankruptcy/UCC
- o Business Litigation
- o Communications Committee
- o Computer & Technology Law
- o Corporations, Securities & Financial Services
- o Intellectual Property
- o Judicial Liaison - Bankruptcy Courts
- o Judicial Liaison- State Court/Federal Court
- o Legislative
- o Membership and Law Student Relations

WEBSITE: <http://www.flabuslaw.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Mark Joseph Wolfson - mwolfson@foley.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Diane Noller Wells - dwells@devinegoodman.com

City, County and Local Government Law Section

The City, County, and Local Government Law Section serves as an organization and resource within The Florida Bar for lawyers representing local government interests and also practicing in this field on behalf of private interests. The Section pursues this mission by providing quality CLE and other programs for its members with an interest in city, county and local government law in Florida. The Section promotes professionalism and collegiality among lawyers who practice in the area of local government law not only through education but also through social opportunities and networking. The Section also publishes a quarterly newsletter, "The Agenda," and regularly submits articles relating to the practice of local government law in The Florida Bar *Journal*.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1973-74

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1,567

COMMITTEES:

- o Agenda
- o Bench & Bar
- o By-Laws
- o Certification Review
- o City, County and Local Government Law Annual Seminar
- o CLE
- o Florida Bar Journal
- o Land Use (w/Environmental and Land Use Law Section)
- o Law and Education
- o Law School Grants
- o Law Student/Intern Awards
- o Legal Affairs Management
- o Legislative
- o Local Government Law Notebook
- o Marsicano Award
- o Membership
- o Nominating
- o PELR (w/Labor and Employment Law Section)
- o Professionalism & Ethics
- o Public Finance
- o Public Relations
- o Publications
- o Quasi-Judicial
- o Stetson Law Review Symposium
- o Technology & Member Services
- o Web Site/List Serve

WEBSITE: <http://www.locgov.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Kathryn Kaye Collie - kaye.collie@occompt.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Mary Helen Campbell – (813) 272-5670

Criminal Law Section

The Criminal Law Section provides a forum for Bar members with a common interest in criminal law. The Section is committed to the improvement of individual trial skills and the administration of justice. Section activities foster a high standard of ethical conduct in all members of the profession who participate in the criminal justice system.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1976-77

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

Joint membership with either Government Lawyer or Administrative Law Sections: \$40.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 2,517

COMMITTEES:

- o Criminal Procedure Rules
- o Education' Federal Practice
- o Jury Instructions
- o Legislative
- o Liaison with the Judiciary
- o Long Range Planning
- o Membership
- o Publications
- o Selig I. Goldin Award Committee
- o Sentencing

WEBSITE: This Section does not host a website in addition to the Bar's website at floridabar.org.

2005-06 CHAIR: Phyllis Diane Kotey - koteyp@fiu.edu

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Leslie Alvin Hess - (407) 836-2400

Elder Law Section

The Elder Law Section provides a forum for persons having an interest in elder law and to further the knowledge and practices of members in that practice area. The Section assists in the development of laws that benefit elder citizens and those concerned with their care. The Section also develops programs and policies that provide for the optimum health, welfare and financial security of elder citizens, their depository wishes and the needs of others that are concerned with elder citizens.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1991

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$30.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1717

COMMITTEES:

- o Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation
- o Death Care Industry
- o Estate & Financial Planning
- o Ethics
- o Exploitation and Abuse
- o Government Benefits
- o Guardianship
- o Health Care
- o Legislative
- o Medicaid
- o Mentor Program
- o Newsletter
- o Special Needs Trust

WEBSITE: <http://www.eldersection.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Christopher A. Likens - clikens@mcconnaughay.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: John William Staunton - jstaunton@earthlink.net

Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section

The Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section provides a forum for members to share in the technical and legal knowledge which relates to the entertainment, arts and sports law industries. The Section also provides standards by which to improve the profession of those that practice in the area of entertainment, arts and sports law.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1987-88

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

Affiliate Members: \$35.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 922

COMMITTEES:

- o Amateur Sports
- o Arbitration/Mediation/Book Publishing
- o Certification
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Performing Arts
- o Film
- o Facilities
- o Fashion & Print
- o Intellectual Property
- o Networking
- o Legislative
- o Music/Recording
- o Television/Radio
- o Publications
- o Profession Team Sports
- o Professional & Individual Sports
- o Newsletter
- o Visual Arts
- o Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
- o Website

WEBSITE: <http://www.easl.info/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Richard Warren Rappaport - rwr@adorno.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: John Francis Bradley - jfblaw@bellsouth.net

Environmental and Land Use Law Section

The Environmental and Land Use Law Section provides a forum for attorneys to share in the technical and legal knowledge which relates to the field of environmental and land use law. The Section provides numerous seminars and workshops as well as publications on the environment and the use of land. The Section has also published a treatise "Florida Environmental and Land Use Law" as a comprehensive guide.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1977-78

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$35.00
Affiliate Members: \$50.00
Law Student Members: \$20.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1966

COMMITTEES:

- o Access to Justice
- o Affiliate Membership
- o Annual Section Awards
- o CLE
- o CLE Treatise
- o Florida Bar Journal Column
- o Legislative Review
- o Internet
- o Public Interest
- o Section Reporter

LIAISONS:

- o ABA Liaison
- o CLE Committee Liaison
- o Law School Liaison

WEBSITE: <http://www.eluls.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Robert James Riggio - (386) 252-3004

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Robert Alan Manning - robertm@hgslaw.com

Equal Opportunities Law

The Equal Opportunities Law Section of The Florida Bar was established in 2000 to provide a forum committed to fostering diversity in the legal profession in Florida.

The Section is committed to the principle of diversity which encompasses race, color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, nationality, age, disability and marital and parental status. Through increased diversity, the legal profession can more effectively address societal and individual needs by increasing the variety of perspectives, experiences, and understanding in the administration of justice. Inclusion and full participation of all elements of society in law firms, government and corporate law departments, courts and law schools will better serve the ends of equal justice to which the legal profession is dedicated.

The Equal Opportunities Law Section is dedicated to making the profession and the judiciary more accessible to minorities, women, and the physically and mentally challenged. The Section encourages all Florida Bar members to join and in particular those who are dedicated to achieving a diverse legal profession within Florida through discussion, networking, education and improving the administration of rules and regulations within the profession. All members are encouraged to participate in the committees, and are offered an opportunity to network with legal professionals with similar interests. Additionally, law school students and graduates, legal assistance and members of agencies, firms or companies dealing with or affecting minorities, women, the physically and mentally challenged are encouraged to join as affiliate members.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1999-2000

DUES: Florida Bar and Affiliate Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 283

COMMITTEES:

- o Budget
- o Coordination and Liaison
- o Education
- o Information
- o Legislative
- o Public Agencies

WEBSITE: This Section does not host a website in addition to the Bar's website at floridabar.org.

2005-06 CHAIR: Ardyth Walker - awalker@miamidade.gov

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Reginald John Clyne - rjc@clynelegal.com

Family Law Section

The Family Law Section provides section members and the public with information on attorneys practicing in the areas of divorce, child custody, adoption, modification of judgments and enforcement of alimony and child support. The Section strives to improve public access to family law information and improving the practice of family law by our members.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1973-74

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$45.00 Affiliate Members: \$40.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 3395

COMMITTEES:

- o Alternative Dispute Resolution
- o Adoption/Juvenile Law & Special Needs of Children
- o Amicus Curiae
- o Bar Bench
- o Bylaws
- o Child Support Ad Hoc
- o Commentator
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Domestic Violence
- o Ethics and Attorneys Fees
- o Florida Bar Journal
- o General Masters and Hearing Officers
- o Legislation
- o Litigation Support Professionals
- o Long Range Planning
- o Masters
- o Mediation & Conciliation
- o Membership
- o Nominating
- o Nomenclature
- o Non Traditional Families and Third Party Issues
- o Pro Se Task Force
- o Public Service
- o Publications
- o Rules/Forms
- o Support Issues
- o Technology & Economics of Family Practice

LIAISONS:

- o Law School Liaison

WEBSITE: <http://www.familylawfla.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Jorge Mariano Cestero - jcestero@sasserlaw.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Thomas Julian Sasser - tomsasser@sasserlaw.com

General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Section

The central goal of the General Practice Solo and Small Law Firm Section is to enhance the quality of practice for the solo and small firm lawyer as well as the lawyer who has interests beyond the bounds of a single professional specialty. The Section provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and information helpful to improving the lawyer's practice and quality of life.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1971-72

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$30.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 2004

COMMITTEES:

- o Agricultural Law
- o Budget
- o CLE
- o Law Related Education
- o Legislation
- o Long Range Planning
- o Membership
- o Pro Bono Award
- o Public Relations & Professionalism
- o Publications
- o Solo and Small Firm Practitioner

WEBSITE: <http://www.gpssf.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Linzie Fitzgerald Bogan – (850) 414-3300

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Michael Theodore Olexa - olexa@ufl.edu

Government Lawyer Section

The Government Lawyer Section is dedicated to promoting the professionalism and competence of its members; improving the delivery of legal services to all governmental entities; improving the administration of the legal system, and enhancing The Florida Bar's and the public's understanding of the unique needs of the government attorney.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1991

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1027

COMMITTEES:

- o Claude Pepper Award
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Legislative/Long Range Committee
- o Pro Bono
- o Publications

WEBSITE: This Section does not host a website in addition to the Bar's website at floridabar.org.

2005-06 CHAIR: Pamela D. Cichon - pamela.cichon@stpete.org

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Joseph C. Mellichamp, III -
mellichamp@carltonfields.com

Health Law Section

The Health Law Section provides a forum for communication and education leading to the improvement and development of the field of health law. The Section also serves the bar and the public generally in interpreting and carrying out the professional needs and objectives in the area of health law that encompasses federal, state or local laws and rules or regulations regarding the delivery of health care services.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1988

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1362

COMMITTEES

- o Communications and Technology
- o Education, Training and Information
- o CLE
- o HIPAA
- o Health Law Handbook
- o Legislative
- o Nominating
- o Section Effectiveness
- o Substantive
- o Trickle Writing Award
- o Web Site

WEBSITE: <http://www.flabarhls.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Allen Richard Grossman - agrossman@gray-robinson.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Harold Edward Kaplan - kaplanhealthlaw@aol.com

International Law Section

The International Law Section of The Florida Bar provides an organization for all members in good standing who have an interest in the field of international law which is defined as the practice of law dealing with issues, problems, or disputes arising from aspects of the relations between or among states and international organizations, between or among nationals of different countries, or between a state and a national of another state, including transnational business transactions, multinational taxation, customs, and trade.

The Section provides a forum of communication and education to and for the public and attorneys on matters relating to international law. The Section also strives to improve the administration and the application of laws, rules and regulations in international law.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1982

DUES: Florida Bar and Law Student Members: \$25.00
Law Professors or Out-of-State Lawyers: \$35.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1031

COMMITTEES:

- o Canadian Law
- o Central & Eastern European Law
- o Certification
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Customs & Trade Law
- o European Community
- o Faculty Council
- o Foreign Legal Consultants Certification
- o Free Trade of the Americas
- o Hague Conventions
- o Improvement
- o Immigration and Nationality Law
- o International Certification
- o International Litigation/Arbitration
- o International Taxation
- o Lawyer Exchange
- o Legislation & Governmental Affairs
- o Long Range Planning
- o Membership & Benefits
- o Nominating
- o Publications
- o Russia & Eurasia
- o Technology and Telecommunications
- o Travel Law

LIAISONS:

- o ABA (Business)
- o ABA (Customs)
- o ABA (International)
- o ABA (Litigation)
- o Austria
- o Baltics
- o Barcelona Bar
- o Brazil
- o Canada
- o CEELI
- o Civil Law Notaries
- o Columbia
- o Consular Corps
- o England
- o France
- o Germany
- o Guatemala
- o Homeland Security & FDA
- o Inter-American Bar Association
- o International Bar Association
- o Ireland
- o Mexico
- o Russia
- o Slovakia
- o Switzerland
- o Trinidad & Tobago
- o USCIB

WEBSITE: <http://www.internationallawsection.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: John Henry Rooney, Jr. - jrooney@shutts-law.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Francesca Russo-Di Staulo - fdistaulo@kpkb.com

Labor and Employment Law Section

The Labor and Employment Law Section actively sponsors the continuing education of the members of The Florida Bar in the field of labor and employment law. The Section studies and reports on proposed legislation or administrative policy for the improvement of the law and practice in these fields and makes appropriate recommendations to The Florida Bar. Through the Section those members interested in the problems of management and labor throughout the state are encouraged to meet and confer upon their various problems and, through such cooperation, to promote justice. All members receive section publications, are encouraged to participate in the committees, and are offered an opportunity to network with legal professionals with similar interests.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1981

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00

Authorized House Counsel and Law Instructors: \$30.00

Law Students: \$20.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 2188

COMMITTEES:

- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Long Range Planning
- o Special Project

WEBSITE: <http://www.laboremploymentlaw.org./index.html> (Although at the time of this publication the website was currently under construction).

2005-06 CHAIR: Frank Damon Kitchen - dkitchen@constangy.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Cynthia Sass - cnsass@tampabay.rr.com

Practice Management and Development Section

The Practice Management and Development Section provides a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas regarding practice management and technology issues. The Section is committed to helping attorneys and their staff transition from legal pads to computers, thus enabling the lawyer's term to be more effective, productive and responsive to clients and the public.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1978-1979

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$25.00
Affiliate Members: \$50.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 747

COMMITTEES:

- o Affiliate Membership
- o CLE Seminars
- o Membership
- o Newsletter
- o Publications

WEBSITE: <http://www.flapmd.org>

2005-06 CHAIR: Damon Christopher Glisson - damon@glisson1.net

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Camille Iurillo - ciurillo@iurillolaw.com

Public Interest Law Section

The Public Interest Law Section provides those who have a common interest in advocacy and enhancement of constitutional, statutory or other rights that protect the dignity, security, justice, liberty, or freedom of the individual or public, and a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas leading to increased knowledge and understanding of the areas of public interest law. Section members receive publications, are encouraged to participate in the committees, and are offered an opportunity to network with legal professionals with similar interests. Additionally, legislators and legislative staff members, agency staff, public interest advocates, and representatives of for-profit and non-profit private sector initiatives are encouraged to join as affiliate members.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1989

DUES: Florida Bar and Affiliate Members: \$25.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 443

COMMITTEES:

- o Delivery of Legal Services
- o Disability Law
- o First Amendment Law Committee
- o Individual Rights and Responsibilities
- o Legal Needs of Children

WEBSITE: This Section does not host a website in addition to the Bar's website at floridabar.org.

2005-06 CHAIR: Walter Hugh Honaman III - whonaman@legalaid.org

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Tamara Ilene Gray - tgray@pdmiami.com

Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section

The Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section provides a forum for persons with an interest in real property, probate or trust law and encourage the knowledge and practices of members in those areas of the law. The Section assists in developing real property, probate and trust law, and to serve the public generally and The Florida Bar in interpreting and carrying out the public and professional needs and objectives in the fields of real property, probate and trust law. The Section also develops standards for ethical and competent practice in real property, probate and trust law to develop and maintain professional relationships between real property, probate and trust lawyers and other groups. Finally, the Section works to improve the implementation and application of laws, rules and regulations in the fields of real property, probate and trust law and to accomplish legislative objectives relevant to those laws. The Section has the most members of any other Florida Bar section and has three divisions of Committees, General Standing Committees, Probate and Trust Law Committees and Real Property Committees.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1954

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$50.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 9088

GENERAL STANDING COMMITTEES:

- o ADR
- o All Bar Conference
- o Amicus Coordination
- o Budget
- o Bylaws
- o Certification
- o Consumer Protection
- o Council of Sections
- o Legislative Review
- o Legislative Update
- o Meetings & Arrangements
- o Members & Membership Services
- o Out-of-State Member Relations
- o Pro Bono Coordination
- o Public Information
- o Scholarships & Awards
- o Section Convention
- o Section CLE Publications
- o Section Florida Bar *Journal*
- o Section Newsletter and Florida Bar *News*
- o Strategic Planning Meeting

PROBATE AND TRUST LAW DIVISION COMMITTEES:

- o Economics of Probate and Trust Law
- o Estate and Trust Tax Planning
- o Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Professionalism

- o Guardianship Law and Powers of Attorney
- o Probate Division — Seminar Coordinator
- o Probate Forms
- o Probate Law
- o Probate & Trust Law Problems Study
- o Trust Law
- o Wills, Trusts and Estates Certification Review Course

REAL PROPERTY DIVISION COMMITTEES:

- o Condominium & Planned Development
- o Construction Law
- o Debtor-Creditor Aspects of Real Property Law
- o Economics of Real Property Law
- o Government Procedures
- o Governmental Regulation of Land Use
- o Land Trusts and Reits
- o Landlord & Tenant
- o Legal Opinions
- o Mortgage Law
- o RE Cert. Review Course
- o Real Estate Development
- o Real Estate Litigation
- o Real Estate Professionalism
- o Real Property Problems Study Committee
- o Survey Law
- o Tax Aspects of Real Property Law
- o Title Issues & Standards Committee
- o Uniform and Model Acts

LIAISONS:

- o ABA Liaisons
- o Liaison with Corporate Fiduciaries
- o Liaison to CLE Committee
- o Liaison with Elder Law
- o Liaison with Employee Benefits
- o Liaison with Florida Bankers Association
- o Liaison with Judiciary
- o Liaison with Lenders
- o Liaison with Real Estate Brokers
- o Liaison with Tax Section
- o Liaison with Title Insurers

WEBSITE: <http://www.flabarrppl.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Julius James Zschau - jayz@penningtonlaw.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Rohan Kelley - rohan.kelley@hklaw.com

Tax Section

The mission of the Tax Law Section is to serve and support its members and others by providing education, leadership and networking opportunities and promoting professionalism. The Section pursues these goals through quality CLE and other educational programs for its members and others with an interest in the practice of tax law in Florida. The Section also seeks to promote professionalism and collegiality among tax lawyers not only through education but also through social activities and networking opportunities. In addition, the Section publishes a quarterly newsletter “The Bulletin” and regularly submits articles of interest to tax lawyers, to be published in the Florida Bar *Journal*.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1952

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$40.00
Affiliate Members: \$20.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 2002

COMMITTEES/DIVISIONS:

- o Education Programs Division
- o Federal Tax Division
- o Finance Committee
- o Long Range Planning Committee
- o New Tax Lawyers Committee
- o Nominating Committee
- o Section Administration Division
- o State Tax Division

WEBSITE: <http://www.floridataxlawyers.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Mitchell Ira Horowitz - mhorowitz@fowlerwhite.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Mark Elliott Holcomb - mark.holcomb@hklaw.com

Trial Lawyers Section

The Trial Lawyers Section provides assistance to the courts in improving the administration of justice. The Section also seeks to promote the art of advocacy and to preserve and protect the jury system. The governing body of the Trial Lawyers Section is its Executive Council, which is made up of 21 elected members of the Section, plus the Chair, Chair-elect, Secretary, and Immediate Past Chair. The Executive Council is essentially equally divided between plaintiff and defense lawyers and is designed to be geographically diverse throughout the state.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1967-68

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$50.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 6663

COMMITTEES: None

WEBSITE: <http://www.flatls.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Mark P. Buell - buell@sbelaw.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Bradley Edward Powers - bpowers@fowlerwhite.com

Workers' Compensation Section

The Workers' Compensation Section provides a forum for all who have a common interest in workers' compensation law. The Section provides for discussion and exchange of ideas leading to the improvement of individual trial abilities in workers' compensation cases. All members receive section publications, are encouraged to participate in Section Committees, and are offered an opportunity to network with legal professionals with similar interests.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1975-76

DUES: Florida Bar Members: \$50.00
Affiliate Members: \$30.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1572

COMMITTEES:

- o Certification
- o CLE
- o Judiciary
- o Legislation
- o Long Range Planning
- o Medical/Legal
- o Membership
- o Newsletter
- o Rules
- o Trial Advocacy

WEBSITE: <http://www.flworkerscomp.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Ramon Malca - rmalca@malcaandjacobs.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: Thomas William Conroy -
tconroy@conroysimberg.com

Out-of-State Division

The purpose of the Division is to provide a forum for persons having an interest in issues of importance to out-of-state members of The Florida Bar. The Division assists out-of-state lawyers in administrative, educational and practice development issues and in relocating to Florida. The Division provides for pro bono activities, establishes a network of out-of-state members, and aids in the development of laws that eliminate disparate treatment of out-of-state members. The Division helps to identify the professional needs and objectives of out-of-state members and implement programs to further these objectives and it strives to develop and maintain proper professional relationships between in-state and out-of-state members. The Division seeks to accomplish the legitimate legislative objectives of out-of-state members. All members receive division publications, are encouraged to participate in the committees, and are offered an opportunity to network with legal professionals with similar interests.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1992

DUES: Florida Bar and Affiliate Members: \$30.00

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1206

COMMITTEES:

- o Budget
- o Bylaws
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Coordination and Liaison
- o Information
- o Legislative
- o Multi-State Practice
- o Nominating
- o Pro Bono

WEBSITE: <http://flabaroutofstaters.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Eric L. Meeks - emeeks@meekslawfirm.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: W. Scott Patterson - wsp@iclawgroup.com

Young Lawyers Division

The Young Lawyers Division provides a full and complete program of activities and projects designed to be of interest and assistance to its members, and to engage in such activities as shall tend to further the best interests of the legal profession. As referenced in the materials, the YLD Board of Governors Committees are composed of current members of the Board of Governors. However, the Young Lawyers Division works closely with each of the young lawyers divisions or sections throughout the state as affiliates of the local bar associations. The local affiliates provide numerous opportunities to get involved. The YLD provides funding for local programs and suggestions for other programs to be implemented at the local level at the annual Affiliate Outreach Conference.

YEAR ORGANIZED: 1952 (Junior Bar Section)
1966 (Young Lawyers Section)
1986 (Young Lawyers Division)

DUES: None

NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 21461

COMMITTEES:

- o Affiliate Outreach
- o Awards/Scholarship/Student Education
- o Bar Annual Meeting
- o Bylaws
- o Communications
- o Continuing Legal Education
- o Executive Committee
- o Governmental Affairs
- o Law-Related Education Committee
- o Law Schools
- o Long-Range Planning
- o Moot Court
- o Practicing with Professionalism
- o Professionalism
- o Publications
- o Scholarship
- o Quality of Life
- o Special Task Force
- o Technology
- o Youth Project

WEBSITE: <http://www.flayld.org/>

2005-06 CHAIR: Jamie Billotte Moses - jmoses@fisherlawfirm.com

2005-06 CHAIR-ELECT: John Mitchell Stewart - jms@st-ev.com

APPENDIX B

Sample Application for Appointment to a Committee

Introduction

Appendix B contains a sample of the application solicited from any member of The Florida Bar that is interested in serving on one of the Bar's Committees. The Florida Bar website contains the appropriate deadlines as to when such forms are due. In the 2006 appointments process, the deadline was January 13, 2006. The online form has been modified and is now more user-friendly. It includes drop down selections for the committee of your choice with up to three choices available. There is also a comments section that allows the applicant to introduce additional information that might be useful in distinguishing him or her from other applicants. It should be noted that this application is not required for getting involved in the Committees of each of the Sections or Divisions of The Florida Bar. However, you may need to inquire directly with the appropriate Florida Bar Staff member or the Chair or Chair-Elect of the Section or Division of interest to learn how you can serve on one of these committees.

2006 - 2007 Committee Preference Form

DEADLINE
January 13, 2006

Committee Preference forms can be found on the Bar's website: floridabar.org/leadership

Member Number:

Name:

***Term Limit Policy:** Service on standing committees is limited to 6 years. Reappointment to the same committee will be considered after a 3-year break. Terms for current members seeking reappointment will not exceed the 6-year limit. To apply for a Certification committee, you must already be Certified in that area.

COMMITTEE SELECTION *

First Choice:

Second Choice:

Third Choice:

Check here if you have NEVER served on a Bar Committee.

To assist us in the committee selection process, please provide the following information:

Nature of Practice:

Number of Lawyers in Office:

- Area of Practice:
- Civil - Defense
 - Civil - Plaintiff
 - Civil - Both
 - Criminal - Defense
 - Criminal - Prosecution
 - Criminal - Both/Other

- Time available for committee work:
- Less than one day/month
 - One day/month
 - More than one day/month

COMMENTS (please include any special qualifications or experience you wish to have considered)

250 words or less

Are you interested in serving on a:

Grievance Committee Yes

UPL Committee Yes

Deadline - January 13, 2006

Note: Committee selections will be approved during the May Board of Governors meeting. All appointees will be notified as soon as possible following the meeting.

APPENDIX C

Florida Bar Committees

Introduction

Appendix C contains a brief description of the Florida Bar's sixty-five committees. It should be noted that twenty of these committees are the Board Certification committees for which board certification is a requisite. For some of these Committees no information was available but the appropriate staff contact is listed. For additional information check the Florida Bar website.

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BAR SERVICES COMMITTEES

Advertising

The Advertising Committee administers the advertising evaluation program set forth in Rule 4-7.7, Rules of Professional Conduct. The Committee advises Bar members on permissible advertising and solicitation practices. This Committee issues written advisory opinions, evaluates advertisements required to be filed with the committee, and develops a handbook on advertising for the guidance of and dissemination to Bar members. The Committee also recommends to the Board such amendments to the Rules of Professional Conduct as the Committee believes are appropriate.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting Committee assists the president in planning and coordinating the Bar's annual meeting. The president appoints the committee early in the administrative year. From within the committee, members are given responsibilities for entertainment, sports, sponsorships and others to assist the president in the general planning of the meeting. The committee usually meets as early as nine months prior to the annual meeting for a planning session. Further meetings occur approximately every two months. At these meetings members may offer suggestions to the president regarding speakers, entertainment, and general format, and receive instructions concerning their individual responsibilities.

Continuing Legal Education

The Continuing Legal Education Committee assists Bar members in their continuing legal education and facilitates the production and delivery of quality CLE programs and publications for the benefit of Bar members in coordination with the Sections, Committees and others who participate in the CLE process. The Committee coordinates the preparation and distribution of CLE publications, including practice manuals, multimedia presentations, and necessary supplements and other updates.

Federal Court Practice

The Federal Court Practice Committee serves as the Bar's liaison to the federal courts, the standing committees of the Federal Judicial Conference, and to chapters of the Federal Bar Association in Florida, and those committees of The Florida Bar interested in federal practice. The committee reviews proposed changes to the federal rules, including all local rules. The committee publishes the *Florida Federal Court Practice Manual* which describes the practices of individual federal judges in all three districts.

Florida Bar Center Commission

The Florida Bar Center Commission makes recommendations to the Board regarding significant matters pertaining to the headquarters office.

Florida Bar Journal/News Editorial Board

The scope and function of *The Florida Bar Journal/News* Editorial Board is to advise and assist the editorial staff. The board works closely with the *Journal* and *News* staff to develop articles of current interest and concern to the profession and, as a reviewing board, selects for publication only the most worthy manuscripts.

Grievance Mediation & Fee Arbitration

The committee administers the mediation program, certifying mediators for the program, promulgating necessary forms and documents, and making recommendations, as necessary, to the Board for changes in the mediation program. The committee maintains a list of program mediators, listing the program mediators by judicial circuit and, where appropriate, by each county therein. The purpose of the fee arbitration program is to provide a uniform, statewide fee arbitration system to arbitrate fee disputes between an attorney and client. The standing committee is the policy-making body with duties which include prescribing standardized forms and rules of procedure for the circuit arbitration committees and approving statewide administrative fees.

Judicial Administration & Evaluation

The Judicial Administration and Evaluation Committee accepts specific assignments from the Board in areas regarding the judiciary. Prior to each legislative session, the committee reviews all legislation pertinent to the judiciary which has been prefiled and makes recommendations either to the Board of Governors or the Legislation Committee of the Bar. Of concern to the committee is the question of obtaining and then retaining qualified judicial officers. Not only are the selection and retention processes monitored but also consideration is given to making judicial offices more attractive to qualified attorneys.

The Judicial Administration and Evaluation Committee also assists the Florida Supreme Court in the Judicial Evaluation process. Justice Charles T. Wells urges all judges and lawyers to participate in the Judicial Evaluation program. Trial and appellate court evaluation forms and an example of how the confidential envelope should look are available in PDF format.

The prime goal of the evaluation procedures is to provide a confidential means by which the attorney members of The Florida Bar can communicate with Bar members who sit as appellate or trial court judges concerning their perceived specific strengths and weaknesses of judicial performance—thereby providing judges with confidential feedback to assist them with self-assessment and self-

improvement. The voluntary, confidential evaluation program for trial and appellate court judges began January 1, 1998.

On the trial court level, the court includes a Judicial Evaluation Form and an envelope addressed to the judge in care of The Florida Bar when the court mails to counsel of record the Final Order ending the case. On the appellate court level, the clerk transmits the Judicial Evaluation Form and associated instructions to all counsel of record who participated in the appeal at the time the appellate opinion is sent. All evaluations are confidential pursuant to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.051(c)(4). The evaluated judge may communicate the substance of an evaluation to the chief judge or to another judge for the purpose of peer input, but otherwise the evaluations may not be disclosed to any other person.

The committee hopes that this program will provide judges with useful and accurate substantive input from lawyers practicing before them— and it requests the support of all judges and attorneys in ensuring the success of the program. The committee continues its work in evaluating and fine tuning these programs and exploring other means to help maintain the highest level of administration of justice. Trial and appellate court evaluation forms and instructions are available on this website.

The committee has surveyed the judiciary as to the methods and problems and generally all important aspects of judicial evaluation. The committee now has a model judicial evaluation procedure to be used in the state which will include methods of evaluation broader than performance polls. It is the function of the committee to continually improve judicial evaluation.

Judicial Independence, Committee on

The charge of the special committee on judicial independence is to consider various methods of strengthening Florida's judiciary and maintaining its independence, including but not limited to, possible changes in state constitutional or statutory law. Among specific issues of likely consideration the committee will explore potential changes in the composition and appointment of our state's judicial nominating commissions, money raising options to endorse candidates supporting judicial independence, as well as other reforms.

Judicial Nominating Procedures

The JNP Committee assists the Governor and the judicial nominating commissions in discharging their respective duties under Article V, Section 11, Constitution of Florida. The committee offers assistance to the Governor with organizing and presenting an annual training program for all JNC commissioners. The training program provides authoritative information on the subject of judicial selection and the judicial nominating process. It also constitutes a forum for the mutual exchange of information by commissioners. The committee advises judi-

cial nominating commissioners of new legislation or proposed legislation related to the judiciary and the judicial selection process. The committee suggests operating rules and procedures that are in the best interest of the commissions and the judicial nominating process.

LOMAS Advisory Board

The Law Office Management Assistance Service Advisory Board oversees and reviews the activities of LOMAS, whose purpose is to offer practical technical advice on law office management to sole practitioners and small to mid-sized law firms.

Member Benefits

The Member Benefits Committee reviews and evaluates existing benefit programs for Bar members, evaluates programs and services offered to the Bar members and makes recommendations to the Board on changes or additions to the benefits program.

Member Outreach

Looking beyond gender and race, focusing on inclusion and alleviation of apathy within membership of the Bar, the committee is charged with the task of increasing the participation of all members in activities, sections, committees and voluntary bars, while developing ways to increase the number of diverse and inclusive participants in these areas. Building upon suggestions from Diversity in the Legal Profession Final Report and Recommendations the committee will prioritize, plan and ultimately make recommendations of program implementation to the Board of Governors.

Pro Bono Legal Services

The Pro Bono Legal Services Committee reviews the material and information submitted pursuant to the pro bono rules and presents to the Board and the Florida Supreme Court any suggested changes or modifications to the pro bono rules.

Professional Ethics

This committee answers ethics inquiries from Bar members concerning the inquirer's own proposed conduct. The committee reviews informal advisory opinions issued by the Bar's ethics department attorneys. Additionally, the committee publishes formal advisory opinions to guide Bar members in interpreting and applying the ethics rules. A formal opinion is published in accordance with Board of Governors approved procedures as a proposed advisory opinion to which Bar members may submit comments.

Professionalism, Committee on

The Standing Committee on Professionalism assists the Commission and Center in implementing programs, events, and activities to promote professionalism throughout the state.

Quality Of Life and Career

The Quality of Life and Career Committee improves and enhances the quality of life and career satisfaction of lawyers across the stages and settings of professional life.

Relations with Public Accountants, Committee on

The Florida Bar Committee on Relations with Certified Public Accountants strives to create a forum to develop and exchange ideas concerning issues affecting both professions. The committee also functions as a source of information to members of the Bar in matters related to CPAs. The projects for this committee include interaction with CPAs, joint publications, sponsorship of seminars and other continuing education events.

Student Education & Admissions To The Bar

The Student Education and Admissions to the Bar Committee determines whether law schools are adequately preparing their students for the practice of law and if it is concluded that they are not, to make specific recommendations to the Board and law school deans. The committee also monitors and reviews proposed legislation affecting legal education and establishes a means to track the success of minority scholarship programs in an effort to help institutions in the disbursement of minority scholarships, thus allowing these institutions to maximize the benefits of these minority programs.

Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee

The Voluntary Bar Liaison Committee assists Bar sections and committees and Florida's voluntary bar associations, improves communication between the Bar and voluntary bar associations, coordinates Bar programs involving voluntary bar associations, advises the Public Information and Bar Services Department regarding public relations needs of the voluntary bars, provides a resource and information bank with regard to activities and problems of voluntary bar associations, and advises the Board regarding interpretation of Bar programs to voluntary bar associations and individual members. The committee holds the Annual Bar Leaders' Workshop and the annual revision of the Voluntary Bar Leaders' Handbook. This committee coordinates with the Florida Council of Bar Association Presidents and the Florida Council of Bar Executives.

Certification Committees

(NOTE: You must be certified in the particular area to serve on a certification committee in that area).

Board of Legal Specialization and Education

Through administration of the certification plan, the BLSE is charged with identifying for the general public and the profession those attorneys who have substantial experience and have demonstrated special knowledge, skills and proficiency in certified areas of practice and professionalism and ethics in the practice of law. The BLSE oversees the work of all the certification committees. These committees are responsible for proposing criteria for the issuance and renewal of certification, reviewing applications, developing and grading examinations, and recommending to the BLSE certificates be issued to those individuals found to have met both the minimum standards imposed by the certification plan and the particular standards in the area for which certification is sought. The BLSE also has oversight responsibility for the evaluation of all CLE accreditation submissions, member compliance with the Continuing Legal Education Requirement (CLER), and the Basic Skills Course Requirement (BSCR).

AREAS OF CERTIFICATION/STAFF CONTACTS

Admiralty/Maritime	Michele Lamar-Acuff	lacuff@flabar.org
Antitrust Law	Valerie Yarborough	yarborough@flabar.org
Appellate Practice	Carol Vaught	cvaught@flabar.org
Aviation Law	Zina Tompkins	atompkins@flabar.org
Business Litigation	Valerie Yarborough	yarborough@flabar.org
City/County/Local Gov't	Michele Lamar-Acuff	lacuff@flabar.org
Civil Trial	Cherie Morgan	cmorgan@flabar.org
Construction Law	Zina Tompkins	atompkins@flabar.org
Criminal (Trial/Appellate)	Linda Cook	lcook@flabar.org
Elder Law	Cherie Morgan	cmorgan@flabar.org
Health Law	Michele Lamar-Acuff	lacuff@flabar.org
Immigration/Nationality	Carol Vaught	cvaught@flabar.org
International Law	Adam Brink	abrink@flabar.org
Labor/Employment	Michelle Francis	mfrancis@flabar.org
Marital/Family Law	Cherie Morgan	cmorgan@flabar.org
Real Estate	Carol Vaught	cvaught@flabar.org
Tax Law	Zina Tompkins	atompkins@flabar.org
Wills/Trusts/Estates	Valerie Yarborough	yarborough@flabar.org
Workers' Compensation	MF/LC/ML	mfrancis@flabar.org

Court Rules Committees

Appellate Court Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Civil Procedure Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Code & Rules Of Evidence

This committee is not the same as other standing “rules” committees of The Florida Bar. This is because the law of evidence is established by the Legislature and codified in the Florida Statutes rather than promulgated as rules of procedure by the Florida Supreme Court. Therefore, the committee does not strictly follow the procedure for amending rules as set forth in Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130. Instead, the committee primarily focuses on proposed legislation. Rule amendments are proposed only as a technical matter to ensure that the Supreme Court’s Rules of Evidence comport with the code, Chapter 90, Florida Statutes.

Criminal Procedure Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Family Law Rules

The Florida Supreme Court created this committee on October 22, 1992. It initially drafted rules of procedure for family courts. It now functions as other rules committees under Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130.

Florida Probate Rules

The scope and function of the Florida Probate Rules Committee is to carry out the mandate of Rule 2.130, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Juvenile Court Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules for juvenile court proceedings.

Rules of Judicial Administration

This committee originates proposed new rules, and reviews and re-evaluates existing rules of procedure to advance orderly and inexpensive procedures in the administration of justice.

Small Claims Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Traffic Court Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Workers' Compensation Rules

This committee carries out the mandate of Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.130, concerning the proposal of new rules of procedure and changes to existing rules.

Public Service Committees

Client's Security Fund

This committee reviews and processes claims made by persons who may have suffered a reimbursable loss as a result of misappropriation or embezzlement of money or property placed in an attorney's trust pursuant to an attorney and client relationship or such other relationship customary to the practice of law.

Consumer Protection Law

This committee studies Florida's consumer protection laws and seeks to strengthen them where necessary, and also considers means whereby the consumer public and the Bar become better informed about the laws which protect them. Consumer tips are available through The Florida Bar's Call-A-Law scripts and the Florida Attorney General's Consumer Information page.

Law Related Education

This committee promotes effective law related education programs in grades K-12 of Florida's schools, with an emphasis on teaching young citizens respect for the legal system, and for people and their property. The committee maintains and enhances the cooperative efforts of attorneys, educators, and law enforcement personnel in the field of law related education in Florida.

Lawyer Referral Service

The committee oversees the operation of The Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service. The committee supervises and promotes Bar-sponsored lawyer referral services in Florida. The committee conducts workshops for referral service staff and evaluates needs/issues facing Bar-sponsored services such as panel specialization and requirements, promotion, panel recruitment, requirements for establishment of new services, and compliance with the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar.

Legal Needs of Children

This committee finds ways to implement the recommendations of the Commission on the Legal Needs of Children. The committee monitors and influences the legislative process as to the legal needs of children. The committee studies developments in this specialized area of practice of the law and keeps members informed of significant developments through regular e-mail updates. The committee meets at least three times a year for its business meetings, to study current areas, and to share new information.

Military Affairs

This committee: 1) gathers and disseminates information, shares expertise and advises Bar members on all matters relating to the practice of military law in Florida; and 2) exercises general jurisdiction regarding any problem which may arise relative to the provision of legal services to, for, or by members of the military establishment. It addresses issues unique to representation of military members and their families in both civil and criminal matters arising within Florida. Further, the committee considers all possible means of enhancing or increasing the cooperation and communication between the local bar, the legal offices, and the judge advocates of the various military installations within Florida.

Prepaid Legal Services

This committee exercises general jurisdiction over the subject matter encompassed by its title. It also has responsibilities implicit in the provisions of Chapter 9, Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, pertaining to group legal services and prepaid legal plans. The committee fosters plans which assist the middle-income public in obtaining legal services and examines proposed prepaid legal services plans, both open and closed, with regard to ABA policy.

Unlicensed Practice of Law

The Florida Supreme Court delegated to the Bar, as an official arm of the Court, the duty to investigate and prosecute allegations of unauthorized practice of law. The Rules Regulating The Florida Bar establish one statewide Standing Committee on Unlicensed Practice of Law to supervise circuit unlicensed practice of law committees. There must be at least one unlicensed practice of law investigating committee in each circuit. The circuit committees investigate reports of unlicensed practice and report their findings to the statewide standing committee. The standing committee in turn operates under the Board's authority. When the Board approves, based on a recommendation from the Standing Committee, the Bar may initiate litigation seeking a civil injunction. The committee may also issue proposed formal advisory opinions, which are filed with the Florida Supreme Court, on whether specific conduct constitutes the unlicensed practice of law.

Substantive Law Committees

Admiralty Law

This committee studies and keeps Bar members informed of recent developments in the field of admiralty law. The committee along with the Rules Committees reviews and studies the portions of the Federal Rules of Procedure and United States Code relating to admiralty matters and local rules relating to admiralty matters in the various United States district courts in Florida. The committee may study and consider matters in the area of admiralty law and procedure as may be developed by the committee or assigned by the president or Board and assist in developing continuing legal education courses for persons designated in admiralty law.

Animal Law Committee

The Animal Law Committee will keep members of The Florida Bar informed regarding significant developments in this growing practice area. The Committee will take an active role in communicating and reviewing proposed legislative changes and will ultimately hold an annual seminar addressing animal law issues, including how such issues affect more traditional practice areas. The Committee will meet at least three times a year to share new information regarding this practice area, and will provide further research, and study of specialized concerns to this practice area. The Committee will bring together attorneys who practice animal law and have experience with animal law issues. The strength of the Committee is that it encompasses a group of attorneys with a specific interest in the interaction between animals and their environments and surroundings, and how statutes and case law are evolving to accommodate and integrate these interactions with each of the currently accepted and more traditional areas of legal practice.

Aviation Law

This committee studies recent developments of law, legislation and regulations in the field of aviation law, and keeps the Bar members informed of significant developments in this field. The committee maintains liaison with agencies or local, state and federal governments concerned with aerospace law; studies and considers matters of legislation, regulations or problems of aerospace law as developed by the committee or assigned to it by the president or the Board; and assists in developing continuing legal education courses for persons designated in aviation law.

Education Law Committee

This committee brings together education law attorneys, as well as other attorneys that practice in education law-related areas, to review existing areas of

education law, to study recent developments in this specialized area of practice of the law, and to keep the members of the bar informed of significant developments in this practice area. The committee is dedicated to having all new or current members, whatever their level of knowledge or expertise in education law may be, feel welcome and comfortable with participating in committee activities. The Committee takes an active role in communicating and articulating legislative changes, publishes a journal (newsletter), and holds a regular annual seminar addressing education law issues. The Committee meets at least three times a year for its business meetings, to study current areas, and to share new information in this practice area. The Committee also establishes and maintains subcommittees, conducts further research and studies issues of specialized concern to this practice area. The Committee brings together attorneys that practice education law in public and private universities, four-year colleges, community colleges, public and private schools, charter schools, deregulated schools, and other education law-related areas. The synergetic strength of the Committee will be a cross representation from all levels of education, public and private, and include attorneys that represent and/or defend actions in these arenas.

Eminent Domain

This committee studies and keeps Bar members informed of recent developments in the field of condemnation of private property for public use by governmental agencies or private companies who have the power of eminent domain. It keeps Bar members informed of developments of great significance in this field, maintain liaison with private companies and governmental agencies who have and use the power of eminent domain, and studies and considers legislation, law or problems in the area of eminent domain law as developed by the committee or assigned by the president or the Board.

Media & Communications Law

The committee provides Bar members a forum for sharing information about the law applicable to free speech and communications. The committee explores topical legal issues pertaining to the full spectrum of communications methods, including print, broadcast, cable and emerging technologies. The committee seeks to promote better understanding between the Bar and the news media, focusing attention upon mutual problems and developing amicable solutions to those problems. The committee plans the annual Media Law Conference, Reporters' Workshop, Media Awards and produces and updates the Reporter's Handbook.

APPENDIX D

Florida Bar Special Committees

Introduction

Appendix D contains a brief description of The Florida Bar’s eight special committees that are in existence as of the date of this publication. It should be noted that the membership for these committees has already been filled and barring a vacancy there is little expectation that any new appointments will be made in any of these committees. Furthermore, the members that traditionally serve on these committees have had a long standing relationship of service to the Bar or they otherwise possess unique talents or experiences that make them properly suited to serve on these endeavors. Barring such unique experiences, these committees would not be optimal for a young lawyer or an individual that is seeking to become involved in the Bar with no experience of past bar activities at any level. Moreover, the inclusion of these special committees also serves to demonstrate the nature of these committees and to provide a basis for comparison in order to distinguish them from the standing committees discussed in Appendix C. As always, to obtain the latest information on the workings of these Special Committees please visit The Florida Bar website.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Advertising Task Force

The Advertising Task Force was created to study and recommend any changes that may be appropriate to the advertising rules that govern Florida's lawyers. After reviewing recommendations of the Advertising Task Force 2004 the Florida Bar Board of Governors approved changes to the lawyer advertising rules. The Board was expected to file a petition with the Supreme Court of Florida on or about September 1, 2005. The full text of the proposed rules changes and an executive summary can be downloaded from the Florida Bar website. The Advertising Task Force is composed of approximately 22 members.

Citizen Forum

The Florida Bar Citizens Forum is an advisory group that provides a vehicle for two-way communication between the state's major citizen constituencies and the Bar's Board of Governors. Its objectives are to inform and educate the public about the legal and justice systems, to serve as a feedback mechanism and a sounding board on the Bar's plans and programs, and to gain public understanding and support on significant legal/justice issues. Forum membership includes a chair or vice-chair, one of which is a present or former member of the Board of Governors, 12 to 15 representatives of various citizen constituencies, and two lawyers. The Florida Bar Citizens Forum is composed of 15 to 18 members from throughout the state who are appointed to two-year terms by the Florida Bar President.

Special Commission on Lawyer Regulation

The Special Commission on Lawyer Regulation is charged to study the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, as adopted by the Supreme Court of Florida, and to evaluate the efficacy of the current system of lawyer regulation as those rules are implemented by The Florida Bar. After appropriate study and investigation, the commission is requested to report its findings to the Board of Governors and recommend all changes that will increase the efficiency of lawyer regulation while balancing the expectations of the public and the rights and needs of Florida's lawyers as individuals and as a profession.

The goals of the commission are to increase the speed with which matters are evaluated and conclusions reached; preserve the fairness of the system of lawyer regulation where existing levels are appropriate and enhance the level of fairness where possible; and reduce the expense associated with lawyer regulation. The Special Commission on Lawyer Regulation is composed of approximately 30 members.

Special Committee on Website Advertising Rules

The Special Committee on Website Advertising Rules was appointed at the direction of the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar in light of the Board's decisions regarding the proposals of the Advertising Task Force 2004. The Advertising Task Force 2004 recommended changes to virtually all of the lawyer advertising rules (4-7.1 through 4-7.11, Rules Regulating The Florida Bar). The board declined to adopt the task force's recommendation regarding websites, which would have exempted websites from all of the advertising rules. The board instead approved a recommendation that would keep the status quo, while appointing another committee to continue studying the issue of how the lawyer advertising rules should be applied to websites, seeking input from various interested sections and committees of the bar. The Special Committee on Website Advertising Rules is composed of approximately 12 members.

Special Committee on Paralegal Regulation

The charge of the committee is to study the status of paralegals in the state of Florida in light of the proposed legislation filed during the 2005 legislative session which sought recognition and/or regulation of the paralegal profession. It is expected that the Special Committee will make a final report to The Florida Bar Board of Governors prior to the start of the 2006 legislative session. The Special Committee on Paralegal Regulation is composed of approximately 21 members.

Special Committee to Review the ABA Model Rules

The Special Committee to Review the ABA Model Rules 2002 was created to study the changes to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the ABA House of Delegates in February 2002 from recommendations of the American Bar Association Ethics Commission 2000. Building on the work of the Ethics 2000 Review panel, this Special Committee's charge was to analyze the changes to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct, compare them with existing Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, and consider whether The Florida Bar should adopt the recommended changes. The primary concern in analyzing the changes to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct should be protecting the public and maintaining the core values of the legal profession. At the recommendation of the Special Committee to Review the ABA Model Rules 2002, the Florida Bar filed a petition on December 1, 2004 with proposed changes to Chapters 4 and 5, Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. The Special Committee to Review the ABA Model Rules is composed of approximately 9 members.

Supreme Court – Jury Instructions Committee (Criminal)

The Supreme Court Jury Instruction Committee (Criminal) is created to review the form and nature of jury instructions in criminal cases. The majority of the members of this committee are also members of the judiciary. The Special Committee is composed of approximately 17 to 19 members.

Supreme Court – Standard Jury Instructions Committee (Civil)

The Supreme Court Jury Instruction Committee (Civil) is created to review standard jury instructions in civil cases. The majority of the members of this committee are also members of the judiciary. The Special Committee is composed of approximately 23 to 25 members.

APPENDIX E

Florida Bar Special Appointments

Introduction

Appendix E contains a brief description of some of The Florida Bar's appointments to other commissions, entities or organizations. The request for nominees is traditionally published in The Florida Bar News and published on the Bar's website. Some of the appointments are created by statute. As with the Special Committees, some of the appointments are made to those attorneys that have served on a variety of committees or positions with The Florida Bar or that possess unique skills relevant to that appointment.

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SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

ABA House of Delegates

Florida has 8 members of the ABA House of Delegates who serve 2-year staggered terms. Each year the president-elect shall automatically be designated as one of the delegates. At least one delegate must be under 35 years of age at the beginning of the term and is selected by the YLD Board of Governors, subject to ratification by the Board. Delegates are reimbursed by the ABA for transportation costs only (airfare and taxi) for the Midyear Meeting on prescribed forms.

Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference

Board appoints 3 delegates (one from each federal court district) to serve 4-year staggered terms. Terms commence January 1 and expire December 31. The biennial Conference consists of educational opportunities and meetings (by State) on matters of mutual concern. The Bar's delegates contribute to planning and organizing a reception during the Conference which is held in every odd numbered year.

The Florida Bar Foundation Board of Directors

29-directors consisting of: 6 members selected by the Board and 6 members selected by the Supreme Court (those members are certified to the Foundation no later than March 1 of every year; 6 members selected by the Foundation); 2 judicial officers designated by the Chief Justice, and the president of Florida Legal Services, Inc. Also, the Bar's president, president-elect and immediate past president automatically serve a term on the Foundation board by virtue of their office as well as the president, president-elect and secretary/treasurer of the Foundation. Members selected by the Bar shall be a member of the Foundation at the beginning of their term. Members serve 3-year staggered terms, and may serve one additional, consecutive 3-year term beginning and ending in June. The purpose of the Board is to administer Florida's IOTA program.

Additionally, 2 public members, to be selected by a joint nominating committee comprised of 3 directors of the Bar Foundation and 3 members of the Board appointed by the president of the Bar serve no more than two 2-year terms.

Florida Board of Bar Examiners

15-member board composed of 12 members of the Bar and 3 public members. Lawyer members must be a member of The Florida Bar for at least 5 years, and serve 5-year staggered terms. The Board submits 3 nominees per lawyer vacancy to the Supreme Court for appointment at least 90 days in advance of the expiration of a term. Public members serve 3-year terms, shall not be lawyers, shall have an academic Bachelor's Degree and can serve no more than 3 years. A joint committee composed of 3 members of the Board of Bar Examiners and 3

members of the Board of Governors submits 3 nominees for each non-lawyer vacancy to the Supreme Court for appointment at least 90 days in advance of the expiration of a term. The Board of Bar Examiners is responsible for the preparation, grading and conducting written examinations and ensuring each applicant has met the requirements of the Rules with regard to character and fitness, education and technical competence prior to recommending an applicant for admission.

Florida Board of Bar Examiners- Joint Nominating Committee For Public Members (Board Members)

6-member committee consisting of 3 appointments made by the President of The Florida Bar and 3 appointments made by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners who serve 1-year terms. The committee submits 3 recommended appointees for each vacancy 90 days in advance of the expiration of their term to the Supreme Court for appointment. The committee screens and interviews public member applicants interested in serving on the Board of Bar Examiners.

Florida Lawyers Assistance, Inc. Board of Directors

No less than 15 members appointed by the Board for 3-year staggered terms ending June 30. The corporation assists the legal community in securing assistance counseling and treatment for emotional and chemical dependency problems for lawyers.

Florida Legislative Law Revision Council

The council shall be composed of 12 members. The President of the Senate shall appoint four members, at least two of whom shall be members of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members, at least two of whom shall be members of the House; and four members shall be appointed by the Board of Governors of The Florida Bar. Each appointee shall be a member of The Florida Bar or a member of the faculty of an accredited college of law in the state and shall be a person who has demonstrated an interest in law reform. Appointments shall be made without regard to political affiliation. *Section 13.91, Florida Statutes*

Florida Realtor-Attorney Joint Committee

20-member committee. Florida Bar President (who may seek confirmation from the Board) has 10 appointments, each for 2-year staggered terms, representing each appellate district and commencing and expiring December 31. The president receives the recommendations of the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section for consideration. The Florida Association of Realtors also appoints 10 realtors to the committee in the same manner. The chair alternates between the two organizations. The purpose of the committee is to promote cordial relations between realtors and attorneys, assist local Realtor-Attorney Committees, and

to present educational seminars. It also will review and update the FAR/BAR Contract for Sale and Purchase and any appropriate riders.

Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. Board of Directors

21-directors serving 2-year staggered terms composed of: 11 attorneys appointed by the Bar which shall include women and minorities that reasonably reflect the population of the state; 2 attorneys appointed by the Project Director's Association; 5 eligible clients representing the interests of low-income residents; and 3 organization representatives which support legal assistance to the poor. FRLS provides judicial advocacy through co-counseling with local program attorneys and volunteer pro bono attorneys and provides legislative and administrative advocacy on policies impacting the legal rights of the poor, as well as providing civil legal assistance to indigent persons who would not otherwise have the means to obtain a lawyer.

Greater Orlando Area Legal Services

11-member board. The Bar has one appointment for a 2-year term commencing January 1. The purpose of this board is to set policy and manage the affairs of GOALS. Others having appointments are the Orange County Bar, Osceola County Bar, Lake County Bar, NAACP and several other groups.

Judicial Nominating Commissions in each of the 20 Circuits

9 member boards. Four members of The Florida Bar, appointed by the Governor, who are engaged in the practice of law, each of whom is a resident of the territorial jurisdiction served by the commission to which the member is appointed. The Board of Governors of The Florida Bar shall submit to the Governor three recommended nominees for each position. The Governor shall select the appointee from the list of nominees recommended for that position, but the Governor may reject all of the nominees recommended for a position and request that the Board of Governors submit a new list of three different recommended nominees for that position who have not been previously recommended by the Board of Governors. Five members appointed by the Governor, each of whom is a resident of the territorial jurisdiction served by the commission to which the member is appointed, of which at least two are members of The Florida Bar engaged in the practice of law. *Section 43.291, Florida Statutes*

Statewide Nominating Commission for Judges of Compensation Claims

15-member commission composed of: 5 members appointed by the Governor, 5 attorney members (engaged in the practice of law) appointed by the Board, and 5 additional members appointed by the other 10 members. Each group of 5 must have one member who resides in each of the territorial jurisdictions of the district courts of appeal; and, at least one from each group must be a member of a minority group. No attorney who appears before any judge of compensation

claims more than 4 times a year is eligible to serve. Commissioners are subject to Florida financial disclosure laws. This Commission nominates 3 persons to the Governor for appointment to fill interim vacancies or expiring terms of Judges of Compensation Claims. *Section 440.45, Florida Statutes.*

Supreme Court's Bar Admissions Committee

Membership consists of 2 members of the Supreme Court, 2 members of the Board of Bar Examiners, 2 members of The Florida Bar, Deans of all accredited Florida law schools or colleges, and such law student representatives as the Court may designate. Members of the Bar are designated by the Board. Terms are staggered to ensure continuity of policy. The responsibility of the committee is to coordinate the work of the Bench, Bar, law schools and bar examiners and make recommendations to the Court.

APPENDIX F

Florida Bar Board of Governors' Committees

Introduction

Appendix F contains a brief description of the Florida Bar Board of Governors' twenty-two committees that are in existence as of the date of this publication. It should be noted that while membership in these committees is limited to Board of Governors members, the actions of these committees have far reaching implications and impact the entire Bar including the other Sections, Divisions, and Committees. A good understanding of the work of these significant committees is essential to effectively lead at other levels of the organization.

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Audit

The Audit Committee represents the Board of Governors in matters concerning the Bar's auditors. The Committee's duties include recommending the selection of a firm to perform the annual audit, working with the auditors in determining the scope of their examination, receiving comments, if any, from the auditors and, when necessary, recommending to the Board fiscal and accounting policy changes.

At least five members serve on this committee that meets whenever the need arises, normally not more than twice a year for a few hours at each meeting. The meetings are usually held at the September Board meeting and then again at the meeting in Tallahassee.

Budget

The Budget Committee recommends to the Board a budget which implements the approved programs of the Bar after receiving input from the Program Evaluation Committee. Fiscal and budgetary policy changes are formulated by the Budget Committee with input from the various parts of the Bar affected by such changes; proposed policies are sent to the Board of Governors for approval.

Preparation of the budget usually begins in September and is substantially completed by February. Generally, one meeting is held in Tallahassee, and a follow-up meeting may be held in Tampa for preparing the budget. The Rule requires notice of additional meetings in the five appellate districts, which may be canceled if no one requests to appear at the meeting.

The nine-member committee also reviews the financial statements and budget amendments for each Board of Governors meeting. Meetings for this purpose are usually held immediately preceding the Board of Governors meeting.

Certification Plans Appeals

Any lawyer adversely affected by a ruling of the Board of Legal Specialization and Education may petition the Board for relief. It is the responsibility of this seven-member committee to hear and rule on appeals relating to the certification plan, basic skills course requirement (BSCR), and the continuing legal education requirement (CLER). A request for review of a CPAC decision may also be filed with the Board of Governors and the Supreme Court of Florida.

Communications

This committee primarily ensures the continuity and focus of the Bar's internal and external communications in support of organizational and strategic goals. The committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding the Bar's communications policies and programs, the communications impacts of strategic plans and objectives, and the coordination of issues management and crisis communications.

Disciplinary Procedure

This committee studies, formulates, and oversees the rules of substance and proper procedures to be utilized in the handling of grievance matters. The committee reviews all proposed changes to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar and standing board policies relating to discipline. The committee also drafts and proposes recommendations for changes to the rules.

Disciplinary Review

This committee reviews the grievance agenda and makes recommendations on disciplinary actions that require the review of the Board. Prior to each Board meeting, Board members and the DRC receive copies of each agenda item together with back-up information. This material must be reviewed by the members prior to the committee meeting. The committee reviews each agenda item and its recommendations are presented to the Board on the following day. Cases where there is a unanimous agreement are presented to the Board as a group on a “roll call” basis. Other cases are individually discussed before the Board. Any case may be brought up for discussion upon request of a single Board member.

Executive

This committee is composed of the president, president-elect, chair of the Budget Committee, chair of the Legislation Committee, chair of the Communications Committee, Young Lawyers Division president, two members of the Board selected by the president and three Board members selected by the Board. Unless otherwise limited by rule, the Executive Committee has the power and authority to exercise the function of the Board to the extent authorized by the Board on any specific matter, and on any other matter that necessarily must be determined between meetings of the Board. The Executive Committee notifies the Board at the next meeting of all actions taken by the Executive Committee during the interim period. Unless modified by the Board, actions of the Executive Committee shall be final.

Investment

The Investment Committee establishes policy to guide staff and the professional managers in investing funds of The Florida Bar not immediately needed. In addition, this committee meets at Board meetings to review the investment performance, ascertain compliance with the investment policy, make changes, when warranted, in the policy, and make periodic reports to the Board of Governors. This committee is comprised of approximately five members with two-year staggered terms.

Legislation

The Legislation Committee is composed of nine members who serve three-year

staggered terms, at least five of whom must be active Board members. The committee considers proposals for legislative or political action by the Bar or other subgroups, confirms whether such action is within the scope of the Bar's authority, and recommends whether a position should be formally adopted or recognized by the board. The committee's activities may include the drafting of certain legislative or political concepts that may or should be the subject of legislation or other advocacy, and to recommend appropriate action for the board.

Program Evaluation

This committee provides the Board of Governors with: (1) guidelines and standards by which The Florida Bar programs are reviewed or evaluated, (2) in-depth evaluations of selected Bar programs, (3) recommendations relating to proposed, new or expanded programs, (4) review of programs for resource and budgetary appropriations, (5) The Florida Bar's program descriptions, and (6) coordination with the Long Range Planning Committee and the Budget Committee. The Program Evaluation Committee meets during the Board meetings. The committee may be expected to meet in the alternate months between regularly scheduled Board meetings.

The Director of Planning and Evaluation prepares in-depth evaluation reports on those programs selected by the committee for detailed study. The committee reviews the reports and recommendations and submits its report to the Board. Program descriptions for all Bar programs are developed by the Director of Planning and Evaluation and reviewed by the committee to determine the agenda for programs to be evaluated. The Program Evaluation Committee works closely with the Budget Committee in reviewing and evaluating programs. Proponents of new programs are required to submit a detailed program proposal and a budget for review by the Program Evaluation Committee. A detailed three-year budget projection must then be submitted to the Budget Committee.

Review Committee On Professional Ethics

This committee, composed of at least seven Board members, makes preliminary review of advisory ethics opinions appealed to the Board of Governors from the Professional Ethics Committee and advisory advertising opinions appealed to the Board from the Standing Committee on Advertising. The committee votes to affirm, modify or withdraw the advisory opinion. The committee's decision is then reported to the full Board of Governors for approval or modification.

Rules

This committee drafts and/or reviews modifications to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, Standing Board Policies, and other bar policies and regulations prior to Board of Governors review and approval. Changes to the Rules (after Board approval) are submitted to the Supreme Court of Florida for final approval. The committee may also interpret the rules, bylaws or standing board policies, and

review proposed amendments to sections' bylaws.

Strategic Planning

The strategic planning committee annually updates and refines the Bar's strategic plan and provides a copy of the updated plan to the Board. A comprehensive strategic planning workshop involving this committee is conducted annually. All Bar programs and all Board actions must be consistent with the Bar's purpose and strategic plan. Both the budget committee and the program evaluation committee require all funding and program requests to state how and where the request fits into the Bar's long-range strategic plan.

APPENDIX G

Voluntary Bar Associations in Florida

Introduction

Appendix G contains a comprehensive listing of the over 200 voluntary bar associations in Florida. The bar associations are organized by location. The state-wide bar associations are listed first and then all of the remaining associations are organized by Judicial Circuit. Please note that a majority of the information is accurate as of January 31, 2006, including the name of the President at the time of this publication. However, should wish to obtain the most current information for any particular bar association please visit The Florida Bar's website.

STATEWIDE BAR ASSOCIATIONS

Academy of Florida Management Attorneys
Mr. Charles Caulkins, President
450 E. Law Olas Blvd., Ste. 800
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-2223
(954)525-4800
Fax: (954)525-8739
Email: ccaulkins@laborlawyers.com

Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers
Mr. Weldon Earl Brennan, President
601 Bayshore Blvd., Ste. 6910
Tampa, Florida 33606
(813)225-4000
Fax: (813)225-4010
Email: web@wagnerlaw.com

Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers
Mr. Scott Carruthers, Executive Director
6500 Miccosukee Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850)224-9403
Fax: (850)224-4254
Email: scarruthers@aftl.org

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers-Florida Chapter
Ms. Melina Gamot, President
315 Fifth St.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 832-5500
Fax: (561) 835-5944
Email: mpgamot@aol.com

Attorneys' Bar Association of Florida, Inc.
Mr. Harvey M. Alper, President
112 West Citrus St., Ste. 2
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714
(407)869-0900
Fax: (407)869-4905
Email: alperlaw@aol.com

Attorneys' Bar Association of Florida, Inc.
Mr. Will Murphy, Executive Director
2040 Pol St.
Hollywood, Florida 33020
(954) 922-3388
Fax: (954) 923-9805
E-mail: will@murphyslawfirm.net

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women Lawyers
Ms. June McKinney Bartelle, President
10020 Leafwood Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32312
(850)414-3771
Email: junemesq@aprintpcs.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women Lawyers
Ms. Pat Stephens, Executive Director
P.O. Box 15998
Tallahassee, Florida 32317-5998
(850)894-0055
Fax: (850)894-0055
Email: fawl@fawl.org

FLABOTA-FL Chapters, American
Board of Trial Advocates
Mr. William E. Hahn, President
310 S. Fielding Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33606-0660
(813)250-0660
Fax: (813) 250-0663
Email: bill@whahn-law.com

FLABOTA-FL Chapters, American
Board of Trial Advocates
Ms. Mindy Boggs, Executive Director
3012 Pasturewood Lane
Tallahassee, Florida 32309-1604
(850)893-0323
Fax: (850)894-0013
Email: mboggs51@comcast.net

Fla. Academy of Professional Mediators
Ms. Susan Dubow, President
2419 NW 29th Road
Boca Raton, Florida 33431
(561)289-5915
Fax: (561)558-9560
Email: sdubow2505@aol.com

Fla. Academy of Professional Mediators
Ms. Kathy Gayle, Executive Director
Post Office Box 488
Archer, Florida 32618
(800)808-8494
Fax: (352)373-6515
Email: www.tfapm.org

Fla. Association of Adoption Lawyers,
Inc.
Mr. Robison Ronald Harrell, President
3 Clifford Drive
Shalimar, Florida 32579-1250
(850)651-1111
Fax: (850)651-3210

Fla. Association of County Attorneys
Mr. David Tucker, President
14 West Government St., Room 411
Pensacola, Florida 32501-5814
(850)595-4970
Fax: (850)595-4979
Email: david_tucker@co.escambia.fl.us

Fla. Association of Court Clerks
Ms. Martha O. Haynie, President
201 S. Rosalind Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801
(407)836-5690
Fax: (407)836-5599

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (State Ch.)
Mr. Michael Snure, President
FACDL, P.O. Box 2728
Winter Park, Florida 32790-2728
(407)644-7600
Fax: (407)645-0805

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (State Ch.)
Ms. Kathryn L. Bradley, Executive
Director
Post Office Box 1528
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850)385-5080
Fax: (850)385-6715
Email: kbradley@facdl.org

Fla. Association of Police Attorneys
Mr. Judson Chapman, President
2900 Apalachee Parkway, Rm. A-432,
DHSMV
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0504
Email: chapman.judd@hsmv.state.fl.us

Florida Bar Foundation, The
Mr. William Howard Davis, President
215 S. Monroe St. Ste. 701
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850)222-0720
Fax: (850)224-4359
Email: bdavis@lawfla.com

Florida Bar Foundation, The
Ms. Jane Elizabeth Curran, Executive
Director
Post Office Box 1553
Orlando, Florida 32802-9919
(407)843-0045
Fax: (407)839-0287
Email: jcurran@flabarfndn.org

Fla. Conference of County Court Judges
The Honorable Beth Bloom, President
REG Justice Bldg., Rm. 609, 1351 N.W.
12th St.
Miami, Florida 33125
(305)548-5349
Fax: (305)548-5558
Email: bbloom@jud11.flcourts.org

Fla. Conference of DCA Judges
Hon. Gary M. Farmer, President
P.O. Box 3315
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561)242-2048
Fax: (561)242-2100
Email: farmerg@flcourts.org

Fla. Defense Lawyers Association
Ms. Gail Leverett Parenti, President
113 Almeria Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
(305)447-6500
Fax: (305)447-1777
Email: gparenti@parenti-falk.com

Fla. Defense Lawyers Association
Ms. Linda L. Jude, Executive Director
6820 Benjamin Road, Ste. 3
Tampa, Florida 33634
(813)885-9888
Fax: (813)885-5547
Email: ljude@fdla.org

Fla. Law Related Education Association
Mr. Stephen C. Shenkman, President
10121 S.W. 40th St.
Miami, Florida 33165
(305)559-2200
Fax: (305)559-5327
Email: shenkman@gate.net

Fla. Law Related Education Association
Ms. Annette Boyd Pitts, Executive
Director
2874 Remington Green Circle, Ste. A
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850)386-8223
Fax: (850)386-8292
Email: abpflreaed@aol.com

Fla. Project Directors Association
Mr. John P. Cunningham, President
641 First St. South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33731
(727)821-0726
Fax: (727)821-3340
Email: john@gulfcoastlegal.org

Fla. Prosecuting Attorneys Association
Mr. Bruce Colton, President
411 South Second St.
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950
(772)462-1300
Fax: (772)462-1214

Fla. Prosecuting Attorneys Association
Mr. John Hogenmuller, Executive
Director
107 W. Gaines St., Ste. 531
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050
(850)488-3070
Fax: (850)922-0467

Fla. Supreme Court Historical Society
Mr. Howard C. Coker, President
P.O. Box 1860
Jacksonville, Florida 32220-1860
(904)356-6071
Fax: (904)356-9125
Email: hcoker@cokerlaw.com

Fla. Supreme Court Historical Society
Mr. Park Trammell, Executive Director
P.O. Box 11344
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-3344
(850)222-3703
Fax: (850)222-3703
Email: fschs@earthlink.net

Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys
Ms. Nancy Isenberg, President
301 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 33399
(850)577-4415
Email: nancy1@leoncountyfl.gov

FL NELA-FL National Employment
Lawyers Association
Mr. Frank M. Shooster, President
777 State Road 7
Margate, Florida 33068-2803
(954)969-3900
Fax: (954)969-3911
Email: franks@globalresponse.com

Fl. Public Defender Association, Inc.
Mr. Howard "Skip" Babb, President
P.O. Box 7800
Tavares, Florida 32778-7800
(352)742-4270
Email: hbabbl@earthlink.net

Fl. Public Defender Association, Inc.
Mr. Sheldon A. Gusky, Executive
Director
103 N. Gadsden St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850)488-6850
Fax: (850)488-4720
Email: sgusky@st.flpda.org

Florida School Board Attorneys
Association
Ms. Suzanne D'Agresta, President
P.O. Box 2873
Orlando, Florida 32802
(407) 425-9566
Email: sdagresta@orlandolaw.net

Hispanic National Bar Association
(Region VIII)
Mr. John N. Cain, Jr., President
PO Box 3373
Tampa, Florida 32601-3373
(813)221-0200
Fax: (813)221-8668
Email: jnc@manfitzlaw.com

Puerto Rican Bar Association
Mr. Hector Rivera, President
1395 Brickell Ave., Ste. 1400
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)789-9200
Email: hrivera@fowler-white.com

Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter National
Bar Association
Ms. Barbara J. Pittman, President
10014 N. Dale Mabry Hwy. #101
Tampa, Florida 33618-4426
(813)269-9706
Fax: (813)960-0641
Email: hpittman@gte.net

**FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Escambia,
Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton)**
Bankruptcy Bar Association of No. Dist.
of Fla.

Mr. Michael Bruckman, Immediate Past
President
1624 Northwest Sixth St.
Gainesville, Florida 32609
(352)372-5222
Fax: (352)372-8988
Email: bnkrup_see@msn.com

Escambia-Santa Rosa Bar Association
Mr. William H. Stafford, President
125 W. Romana St., Ste. 800
Pensacola, Florida 32502
(850)434-9200
Fax: (850)432-7340
Email: wstafford@cphlaw.com

Escambia-Santa Rosa Bar Association
Mr. Michael A. Doubek, Executive
Director
418 W. Garden St., Rm. 210
Pensacola, Florida 32502
(850)434-8135
Fax: (850)436-8822
Email: mike@esrba.com

FAWL – Northwest Florida Chapter
Ms. Abigail Sanders, President
1202 E. Gonzalez St.
Pensacola, Florida 32501
(850) 429-7408
Email: sanderspl@cox.net

FLABOTA - Northwest Florida Chapter
Mr. James R. Green, President
625 North 9th Avenue
Pensacola, Florida 32501
(850)470-0000
Fax: (850)470-9011
Email: jgreen@jgreenlaw.com

Northwest FL Chapter/Society of
Criminal Defense Bar
Ms. Tangi Uher, President
P.O. Box 12666, 190 Governmental
Center

Pensacola, Florida 32501
(850)595-4100
Fax: (850)595-4722
Email: tangi_uher@co.escambia.fl.us

Okaloosa-Walton County Bar Association
Ms. Wanda J. Clapp, President
151 Cedar Avenue

Crestview, Florida 32536-2707
(850)689-5620
Fax: (850)689-5688
Email: wanda_clapp@co.escambia.fl.us

**SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Franklin,
Gadsen, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty
and Wakulla)**

FAWL - Tallahassee Women Lawyers
Ms. Mary Ellen Clark, President
4430 Sierra Court
Tallahassee, Florida 32309
(850)414-3764
Fax: (850)922-6425
Email: meclarkesq@aol.com

Federal Bar Association (Tallahassee
Chapter)
Mr. Neil Rambana, President
521 E. Tennessee St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
(850) 224-4529
Email: neil@rambana.com

FLABOTA - Tallahassee Chapter
Mr. Charles William Dodson, President
215 Delta Ct.(Dodson & Boge)
Tallahassee, Florida 32303-8508
(850)386-1003
Fax: (850)386-1166

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (Tallahassee Ch)
Mr. Alexander Dombrowsky, President
908 Thomasville Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850)224-2539
Fax: (850)224-9335
Email: alex@dobrowskiy.com

Florida Government Bar Association
Ms. Ellen M. Simon, President
2727 Blad Cypress Way, Bin #c-65
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3265
(850)414-8126
Email: ellen-simon@doh.state.fl.us

Franklin County Bar Association
Ms. Rachel Chesnut, President
Post Office Box 501
Apalachicola, Florida 32320
(850)653-4611
Fax: (850)653-4616

Capital City Hispanic Bar Association
Ms. Martha F. Barrera, President
P.O. Box 1238
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1238
(850)422-0763
Fax: (850)922-2936
Email: martha_barrera@oag.state.fl.us

Jefferson County Bar Association
Mr. Brian T. Hayes, President
P. O. Box 1275
Monticello, Florida 32345
(850)997-2065
Fax: (850)997-2364
Email: hayesmontlaw@earthlink.net

Tallahassee Bar Association
Mr. Don Mark Hinkle, President
1545 Raymond Diehl Road, Ste 150
Tallahassee, Florida 32308-8740
(850)205-2055
Fax: (850)205-2056
Email: don@hinkleforan.com

Tallahassee Bar Association
Ms. Kathy Arrant, Executive Director
Post Office Box 813
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850)222-3292
Fax: (850)222-4221
Email: arrantk@tallahasseebar.org

Tallahassee Barristers Association
Ms. Sherrie J. Barnes, President
2629 Blairstone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-5905
(850)219-1119
Fax: (850)219-1117
Email: sjbarnes@barnesjames.com

**THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Columbia,
Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison,
Suwannee and Taylor)**

Lake City/Columbia County Bar
Association
Mr. Christopher L. Craun, President
PO Box 2149
Lake City, Florida 32056-2149
(904)755-0826
Fax: (904)755-0828
Email: clcraunesq@aol.com

Third Judicial Circuit Bar Association
Mr. Kris Robinson, President
Post Office Box 1178
Lake City, Florida 32056-1178
(386)755-1334
Fax: (386)755-1336
Email: kbr@rkkattorneys.com

**FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Clay, Duval
and Nassau)**

Catholic Lawyers Guild of the Diocese
of St. Augustine
Ms. Laurel D. Owens, President
300 N. Hogan St., Ste. 9-150
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904)549-1921
Email: owensr23@comcast.net

Clay County Bar Association
Mr. Robert M. Bradley, Jr., President
P.O. Box 562
Orange Park, Florida 32067-0562
(904)269-1111
Fax: (904)269-1115
Email: rob@claylawyers.com

D. W. Perkins Bar Association
Ms. Juanita Powell, President
255 N. Liberty St., Ste. A
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
Phone (904) 354-0104
Fax: (904) 354-0122
jpowell@ldlawyers.com

FAWL - Jacksonville Women Lawyers
Association
Ms. Deborah Lynne Greene, President
550 Water St., Ste. 1150
Jacksonville, Florida 32202-5177
(904)359-5505
Fax: (904)359-5505
Email: dgreene@smith-greene.com

Federal Bar Association (Jacksonville
Chapter)
Ms. Margaret Zabijaka, President
200 W. Forsyth, Ste. 1610
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 356-8900
Email: mzabijaka@constangy.com

Hispanic Bar Association of Northeast
Florida
Ms. Tatiana R. Salvador, President
1301 Riverplace Blvd. Ste. 1500
Jacksonville, Florida 32207-9000
(904)398-3911
Fax: (904)396-0633
Email: tsalvador@rtlaw.com

Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association
Ms. Nina M. LaFleur, President
121 W. Forsyth St., Ste. 600
Jacksonville, Florida 32202-3848
(904)358-4000
Fax: (904)358-4001
Email: nlaflaur@stutsman-thames.com

Jacksonville Bar Association
Mr. Alan M. Pickert, President
233 E. Bay St., Ste. 804
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904)632-2424
Fax: (904)632-2027
Email: amp@btemy.com

Jacksonville Bar Association
Ms. L. Diane Gill, Executive Director
1301 Riverplace Boulevard, Ste. 730
Jacksonville, Florida 32207-9040
(904)399-4486
Fax: (904)399-4854
Email: dgill@jaxbar.org

Jacksonville Beaches Bar Association
Mr. Vincent Diritto, President
333 North St., Ste. 305
Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250
(904)247-1755
Fax: (904)247-1669
Email: vdirito@pontvedralaw.com

Jacksonville Trial Lawyers Association,
Inc.

Mr. Chris Burns, President
233 E. Bay St., Floor 8
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904)632-2424
Fax: (904)632-2027
Email: cgb@bthemy.com

Nassau County Bar Association
Ms. Teresa Jo Sopp, President
96124 Lofton Square Ct.
Yulee, Florida 32097-6346
(904)350-6677
Fax: (904)277-2855
Email: tjsoff@crimlawyer.com

**FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Hernando,
Lake, Marion, Citrus and Sumter)**

Citrus County Bar Association
Ms. Michele Lieberman, President
110 N. Apopka Ave.
Inverness, Florida 34450
(352) 341-6560
Fax: (352) 341-6585
Email:
michele.lieberman@bocc.citrus.fl.us

FAWL- Marion County Chapter
Ms. Janet L. Fuller, President
P.O. Box 1148
Ocala, Florida 34478
(352) 351-2222
Fax: (352) 351-0312
Email: janetf@accmb.com

FLABOTA - North Florida Chapter
Mr. John H. Piccin, President
PO Box 159
Ocala, Florida 34478-0159
(352)351-5446
Fax: (352)351-5446
Email: jpiccin@pglaw.com

Hernando County Bar Association
Mr. Frank A. Miller, President
703 Lamar
Brooksville, Florida 34602
(352)799-7506
Email: cagmil@cagmil.com

Hernando County Bar Association
Ms. Geraldine Bishop, Executive Director
20 N. Main St., #350
Brooksville, Florida 34601
(352)754-4284
Fax: (352)754-4273
Email: gerrieb@co.hernando.fl.us

Lake County Bar Association
Mr. Terry T. Neal, President
P.O. Box 490327
Leesburg, Florida 34749-0327
(352)323-8000
Fax: (352)787-9245

Marion County Bar Association
Mr. James Edward Collins, President
21 N.E. 1st Ave.
Ocala, FL 34478-1148
(352)251-2222
Email: jcoll@acomb.com

Sumter County Bar Association
Ms. Mary P. Hatcher, President
222 S. Florida St.
Bushnell, Florida 33513
(352)793-5600
Fax: (352)793-6520
Email: maryhatcher-pa@earthlink.net

**SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Pasco and
Pinellas)**

American Corp. Counsel Association
(West Cen. Fl. Ch.)
Mr. Charles Pourciau, President
14235 Shearwater Court
Clearwater, Florida 33762
(727) 410-4786
Email: cpourciau@pallc.biz

Clearwater Bar Association
Ms. Susan Smotherman Demers, President
2465 Drew St.
Clearwater, Florida 33765-2816
(727) 791-2501
Fax: (727)791-2736
Email: susandemers@hotmail.com

Clearwater Bar Association
Ms. Karen France, Executive Director
314 South Missouri Avenue, Ste. 107
Clearwater, Florida 33756-5858
(727)461-4869
Fax: (727)461-0063
Email: kfrance@clearwaterbar.org

FAWL – Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Pinellas Co.)
Ms. Donna K. Rose, President
P. O. Box 365
Clearwater, Florida 33757
(727)443-2999
Email: vonall4him@aol.com

FAWL – Stetson Law School Chapter
Ms. Kate Egelston, President
1608 60th St.
Gulfport, Florida 33707
(727) 452-8815
egelstonk@law.stetson.edu

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (Pinellas Co.)
Mr. Dwight R. Dudley, President
1127 9th Avenue, North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33705-1217
(727)827-5009
Fax: (727)823-6203

Fred G. Minnis, Sr. Bar Association
Ms. Cheryl Smith-Kahn, President
P.O. Box 1157
St. Petersburg, Florida 33731
(727) 464-6962
Email: fredgmisl@yahoo.com

Pasco County Bar Association
Mr. Robert Clinton Burnette, President
5522 Gall Blvd.
Zephyrhills, Florida 33542-3958
(813)788-6800
Email: c175b@cs.com

Pinellas County Mid-County Bar
Association
Mr. David P. Carter, President
7985 113th St., Ste. 108
Seminole, Florida 33772-4785
(727)397-4555
Fax: (727)397-4405
Email: carterlawgroup@yahoo.com

Pinellas County Trial Lawyers Association
Mr. John Trevena, President
801 West Bay Drive, Ste. 509
Largo, Florida 33770
(727)581-5813
Fax: (727)581-7758

St. Petersburg Bar Association
Mr. Seymour A. Gordon, President
P.O. Box 265
St. Petersburg, Florida 33731-0265
(727)896-8111
Fax: (727)822-2234
Email: sygo96@aol.com

St. Petersburg Bar Association
Ms. Nora R. Bergman, Executive
Director
Post Office Box 7538
St. Petersburg, Florida 33734
(727)823-7474
Fax: (727)823-8166
Email: nbergman@stpetebar.com

West Pasco Bar Association
Mr. Steve Doran, President
6113 Grand Blvd.
New Port Richey, Florida 34652
(727)844-7914
Fax: (727)817-0998

**SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Flagler,
Putnam, St. John and Volusia)**
FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Volusia Flagler)
Ms. Monica Hirsch Wilson, President
1275 W. Granada Blvd. Ste. 6B
Ormond Beach, Florida 32174-8105
(386)615-6815
Fax: (386)615-6817
Email: monicahw@cfl.rr.com

Flagler County Bar Association
Mr. Sidney Maurice Nowell, President
P.O. Box 819
Bunnell, Florida 32110-0819
(386)437-1668
Fax: (386)586-4014
Email: attorneynowell@bellsouth.net

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (7th Cir Ch.)
Mr. Sam N. Masters, President
444 Seabreeze Blvd., Ste. 1001
Daytona Beach, Florida 32118
(386)252-4717
Fax: (386)253-7352
Email: smasters@landispa.com

Putnam County Bar Association
Mr. Keith Howell, President
4010 Lewis Speedway Room 252
St. Augustine, Florida 32084
(385)329-0259
Email: keithshowell@aol.com

St. Johns County Bar Association
Ms. Isabelle Lopez, President
P.O. Box 349
St. Augustine, Florida 32085
(904)209-0811
Fax: (904)209-0806
Email: ilopez@co.st-johns.fl.us

Volusia Civil Trial Attorneys Association,
Inc.
Mr. Michael P. Falkowski III, President
338 N. Ridgewood Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114-3253
(386)257-1606
Fax: (386)254-2870
Email: mpfalkowski@aol.com

Volusia County Bar Association
Mr. Jeffrey P. Brock, President
444 Seabreeze Blvd., Ste. 900
Daytona Beach, Florida 32118-3953
(386)254-0675
Fax: (386)257-1834
Email: jbrock@daytonalaw.com

Volusia County Bar Association
Ms. Kathie SeLover, Executive Director
P.O. Drawer 15050
Daytona Beach, Florida 32115
(386)253-9471
Fax: (386)255-3360
Email: office@volusiabar.org

**EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Alachua,
Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and
Union)**

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association
Mr. AuBroncee Starlin Martin, President
4425 N.W. 44th Pl.
Gainesville, Florida 32601-5323
(352)338-7369
Fax: (352)955-2400
Email: luci8_kky@yahoo.com

Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association
Ms. Chris Tharp, Executive Director
PO Box 127
Gainesville, Florida 32602
(352)380-0333
Fax: (352)380-9112
Email: execdir@8jcba.org

Federal Bar Association (Gainesville
Chapter)
Mr. Gilbert Schaffnit, President
719 N.E. First St.
Gainesville, Florida 32601
(352) 378-6593
Email:
gschaffnit@schaffnitandfletcher.com

FAWL - Clara Gehan Association for
Women Lawyers
Ms. Lucy Ellen Goddard-Teel, President
PO Box 390
Gainesville, Florida 32602-0390
(352)955-5022
Fax: (352)955-5163
Email: lucy_goddard@dcf.state.fl.us

Josiah T. Walls Bar Association
Mr. Majeedah Murad, President
P.O. Box 2877
Gainesville, Florida 32602-2877
(352)372-0519
Fax: (352)375-1631
Email: mmurad@co.alachua.fl.us

NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Orange and Osceola)

Caribbean Bar Association (Central Florida Chapter)

Ms. Michelle Tomlison, President
6649 Westwood Blvd., Third Floor
Orlando, Florida 32821
(954)290-0838
Email: tommi_law@hotmail.com

Central Florida Assoc. of Criminal Defense Attorneys

Mr. Terrence Edward Kehoe, President
18 West Pine St., Tinker Bldg.
Orlando, Florida 32801-2612
(407)422-4147
Fax: (407)849-6059
Email: tekehoelaw@aol.com

Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association

Ms. Elena Escamilla, President
135 W. Central Blvd., Ste.
Orlando, Florida 32801
(407) 648-6465
Fax: (407) 648-6323
Email: elena.l.escamilla@usdoj.gov

Central Florida Gay & Lesbian Law Association

Mr. Dan Oliver, President
100 E. Pine St., Ste. 203
Orlando, FL 32806
(407) 648-0280
Fax: (407)648-5234
Email: doliver@schlegellaw.com

FAWL - Barry Women Lawyers Association

Ms. Christina Johnson, President
6441 E. Colonial Drive
Orlando, Florida 32801
(407)719-5501
Email: cvj100@msn.com

FAWL - Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers

Ms. Mary Musette Stewart, President
37 N. Orange Ave., Ste. 200
Orlando, Florida 32801-2439
(407)425-2571
Fax: (407)425-0827
Email: marymusettestewart@hotmail.com

FLABOTA - Central Florida Chapter

Mr. G. B. McVay Voght, President
111 N. Orange Ave. Ste. 1450
Orlando, Florida 32801-2346
(407)843-0126
Fax: (407)849-1267
Email: voght@floridamalpractice.com

Federal Bar Association (Orlando Chapter)

Mr. Gary Wilson, President
180 North Park Ave. Ste. 200
Winter Park, Florida 32789
(407)647-8911
Fax: (407) 628-4994
Email: gwilson@schwartzlawfirm.net

Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida

Mr. Robert C. Power, President
2601 Technology Drive
Orlando, FL 32802-2807
(407)578-9696
Fax: (407)578-9588
Email: rpower@boginmunns.com

Orange County Bar Association

Mr. William E. Sublette, President
25 S. Orange Avenue Ste. 1220
Orlando, Florida 32801
(407)316-0197
Fax: (407)426-7789
Email: bill@sublettesanders.com

Orange County Bar Association

Mr. Brant Bittner, Executive Director
P.O. Box 530085
Orlando, Florida 32853-0085
(407)422-4551
Fax: (407)843-3470
Email: brantb@ocbanet.org

Osceola County Bar Association
Mr. Daniel W. Tumarkin, President
1 S. Orange Ave., Ste. 304
Orlando, Florida 32801-2625
(407)245-1232
Fax: (407)245-2980
Email: tumarkind@nejamelaw.com

Paul C. Perkins Bar Association
Ms. Terryl Blackmon, President
1030 W. Canton Ave., Ste. 110
Winter Park, Florida 32789
(407)246-8408
Fax: (407)647-0152
Email:
terryl_blackmon@progressive.com

**TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Hardee,
Highlands and Polk)**

Hardee County Bar Association
Mr. John W. Burton, President
501 W. Main St.
Wauchula, Florida 33873
(863)773-3241
Fax: (863)773-0910
Email: jwhb@strato.net

Highlands County Bar Association
Mr. Warrick R. Furr, President
22 East Main St.
Avon Park, Florida 33825
(863)453-3430
Fax: (863)453-3435
Email: wfurr@wrfa.local

Lakeland Bar Association
Mr. Mario J. Cabrera, President
615 E. Parker St.
Bartow, Florida 33831
(863)533-4221
Fax: (863)533-4021
Email: mjccatty@msn.com

Lakeland Bar Association
Ms. Lisa Oliver, Executive Director
PO Box 2883
Lakeland, Florida 33806
Email:
superbusymom@tampabay.rr.com

Polk County Trial Lawyers Bar
Association
Mr. Sam Crosby, President
P.O. Box 8169
Lakeland, Florida 33802-1276
(863)688-7038
Fax: (863)688-2619
Email: scrosby@mempalaw.com

Virgil Hawkins Bar Association
Ms. Cassandra Larkinn Denmark,
President
455 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, Florida 33830-3916
(863)534-6351
Fax: (863)534-6650
Email: cdenmark@polksheriff.org

**ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Dade
American Corporate Counsel (So.
Florida Ch.)**

Mr. Lazarus Rothstein, President
14100 N.W. 60th Ave.
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014
(305)818-8105
Email:
laz.rothstein@elizabetharden.com

American Corporate Counsel (So.
Florida Ch.)
Ms. Melva Harris-Rozier, Executive
Director
2127 Little Torch St.
West Palm Beach, Florida 33409
(561)863-9386
Email: melvarozier@aol.com

American Immigration Lawyers Bar
Association (S. Fla. Ch.)
Mr. Anis Saleh, President
One S.E. Third Avenue, Ste. 1870
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)379-2661
Fax: (305)358-7809
Email: asaleh@salehlaw.com

Asian Pacific American Bar Association
of South Florida

Mr. William Simonitsch, President
210 S. Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 2000
Miami, Florida 33131-2399
(305)539-3336
Fax: (305)358-7095
Email: wsimonitsch@klnq.com

Bankruptcy Bar Association of So. Dist.
of Fla.

Ms. Tina M. Talarchyk, President
200 S. Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 3400
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)960-2200
Fax: (305)960-2201
Email: tmtalarchyk@duanemorris.com

Bankruptcy Bar Association of So. Dist.
of Fla.

Ms. Laura Silverman, Executive Director
7154 N. University Drive, Ste. 299
Tamarac, FL 33321
(305) 891-5080
Fax: (954) 726-3492
Email: lsilverman@bbasdf.org

Caribbean Bar Association

Ms. Pamela Marie Gordon, President
200 E. Las Olas Blvd.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-2299
(954)331-9912
Email: pmg@brinkleymcnerney.com

Colombian-American Bar Association

Mr. Carlos Marin, President
255 Alhambra Circle, Ste. 705
Coral Gables, Florida 33134-7407
(305)448-0511
Email: cmarin@marinlawyers.com

Coral Gables Bar Association

Mr. James Paul Roen, President
1320 S. Dixie Highway, Ph 1275
Coral Gables, Florida 33146-2926
(305)661-6664
Fax: (305)661-3477
Email: jroen@leveypa.com

Cuban American Bar Association
Ms. Corali Lopez-Castro, President
200 S. Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 2800
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)372-1800
Email: clc@kttlaw.com

Dade County Bar Association
Mr. John W. Thornton, Jr., President
200 S. Biscayne Blvd., #9000
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)358-9000
Fax: (305)317-5747

Dade County Bar Association
Mrs. Johnnie Ridgely, Executive Director
123 N.W. First Avenue, #214
Miami, Florida 33128
(305)371-2220
Fax: (305)373-6210
Email: dadecountybar@bellsouth.net

Dade County Defense Bar Association
Mr. Robert J. Kuntz, President
777 Brickell Ave., Ste. 850
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)374-8200

Dade County Trial Lawyers Association
Mr. Michael Feiler, President
901 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
(305)441-8818
Fax: (305)441-8081
Email: mbr@flmlegal.com

Dade County Trial Lawyers Association
Ms. Yara L. Garcia, Executive Director
8591 NW 186th St. #175
Miami, FL 33015
(305)458-1298
Fax: (305)829-6604
Email: ag_law-yara@msn.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Miami-Dade Co.)
Ms. Sandra Hernandez, President
3690 N.W. 50th St.
Miami, Florida 33142
(305) 633-1581
Email:
shernandez@colonialpressintl.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (St. Thomas)

Ms. Jessica L. Menjivar, President
6569 Lurais Drive
Lake Worth, Florida 33463
Email: jml_menjivar@mac.com

FAWL – University of Miami Women in
Law

Ms. Shaena Rowland, President
1311 Miller Road
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
(732) 841-7434
E-mail: shae84@att.net

FLABOTA - Miami Chapter

Mr. Joseph Kalbac, Jr., President
PO Box 141108
Coral Gables, Florida 33131-1108
(305)476-7400
Fax: (305)47674444
Email: jkalbac@colson.com

Federal Bar Association (South Fla.
Chapter)

Ms. Amy D. Ronner, President
16400 N.W. 32nd Ave.
Opa Locka, Florida 33054
(305) 623-2332
Email: aronner@stu.edu

Fla. Association of Attorney - CPA's

Mr. Sydney S. Traum, President
1320 S. Dixie Highway Gables One
Tower, PH 1275
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
(305)661-6664
Fax: (305)661-6477
Email: sydraum@attorney-cpa.com

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (Miami Ch.)

Mr. Brian Tannebaum, President
150 West Flagler St., Ste. 2850
Miami, Florida 33130
(305)374-7850
Fax: (305)374-0081
Email: btannebaum@tpwlawfirm.com

Gay and Lesbian Lawyers Association
Mr. Steven R. Kozlowski, President
927 Lincoln Road, Ste. 118
Miami Beach, Florida 33139
(305)673-8988
Fax: (305)673-8668
Email: steven@klfpa.com

Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers
Association

Ms. Schnae Nicole Mitchell, President
2600 S. Douglas Road, Ste. 1100
Coral Gables, Florida 33134-6143
(305)446-3244
Fax: (305)446-3538
Email: snm@clynelegal.com

Haitian Lawyers Association, Inc.

Ms. Beatrice Cazeau, President
633 N.E. 167th St. Ste. 1025
North Miami Beach, Florida 33162
(305) 381-6002
Fax: (305)381-6808

Hialeah-Miami Lakes Bar Association

Mr. Carlos M. Rippes, President
24 E. 5th St., Ste. 2E
Hialeah, Florida 33010
(305)887-0343
Fax: (305)885-9196

Intellectual Property Law Association of
South Florida

Ms. Yi Li, President
11820 S.W. 107th Ave.
Miami, Florida 33176
(786)242-9349
Email: yilicupa@aol.com

Juvenile Justice Attorneys Association

Ms. Virginia Stanley, President
1550 Madruga Avenue, Ste. 400
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
(305)668-0084
Email: vstanley@direcway.com

Miami Beach Bar Association

Ms. Joy Spill, President
9100 S. Dadeland Blvd., Ste. 504
Miami,, Florida 33156
(305) 670-6750
Fax: (305) 670-6776
Email: spill675@bellsouth.net

North Dade Bar Association
Mr. Ivan Schertzer, President
1190 N.E. 163rd St., Ste. 347
North Miami Beach, Florida 33162-4524
(305)940-0007
Fax: (305)354-4895
Email: ischertzer@aol.com

South Miami-Kendall Bar Association
Ms. Lisa R. Ginsburg, President
7933 N.W. 7th Ave.
Miami, Florida 33150-3103
(305)757-7771
Fax: (305)757-7756
Email: lisalawyer01@hotmail.com

Wilkie D. Ferguson Jr. Bar Association
Ms. Muslima Lewis, President
2 South Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 2700
Miami, Florida 33131
(305)530-6006
Fax: (305)536-4494
Email: muslew@bellsouth.net

**TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (DeSoto,
Manatee and Sarasota)**

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Manatee Co.)
Ms. Ginger Perusek, President
2424 Manatee Ave. W., Ste. 205
Bradenton, Florida 34205
(941) 745-1500
gperusek@verizon.net

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Sarasota Ch.)
Ms. Marjorie Schmoyer, President
1800 Second St., Ste. 700
Sarasota, Florida 34236
(941)954-0064
Fax: (941)951-1882
Email: marjories@att.net

Fla. Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers (Sarasota Ch.)
Mr. Mark R. Zimmerman, President
434 S. Washington Blvd., Ste. 250
Sarasota, Florida 34236
(941)364-8503
Fax: (941)364-8423
Email: mark@markzimlaw.com

FLABOTA - Sarasota/Bradenton Chapter
Mr. James Robert Dirmann, President
100 Wallace Ave. Ste. 380
Sarasota, Florida 34237-6043
(941)366-7997
Fax: (941)366-4571

Manatee County Bar Association
Mr. Gregory Hagopian, President
1101 Sixth Ave. W., #204
Bradenton, Florida 34205
(941)747-6630
Fax: (941)747-6632
Email: greghagopian@hotmail.com

Manatee County Bar Association
Ms. Sue Revell, Executive Director
Post Office Box 796
Bradenton, Florida 34206
(941)741-4091
Fax: (941)741-4085
Email: manatee.bar@manateeclerk.com

Sarasota County Bar Association
Mr. Arthur S. Hardy, President
1777 Main St., Ste. 500
Sarasota, Florida 34236
(941)366-8888
Fax: (941)954-7777
Email:
ahardy@matthewseastmoore.com

Sarasota County Bar Association
Ms. Jan Jung, Executive Director
Post Office Box 507
Sarasota, Florida 34230
(941)366-6703
Fax: (941)954-2301
Email: janjung@sarasotabar.com

Venice-Englewood Bar Association
Mr. Brian L. Dean, President
609 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, Florida 34785
(941)484-1118
Email: venicelaw@ewol.com

**THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
(Hillsborough)**

Brandon Bar Association
Mr. G. Donald Golden, President
339 E. Robertson St.
Brandon, Florida 33516
(813)657-0853
Fax: (813)657-6415
Email: don@brandonlawyer.com

Carrollwood Community Bar
Association
Mr. Paul Riffel, President
1319 W. Fletcher Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612
(813) 265-1185
Fax: (813)265-0940
Email: riffel@tampabar.rr.com

FAWL - Hillsborough Association for
Women Lawyers
Ms. Sarah Dennis, President
100 S. Ashley Drive, 15th Floor
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813) 209-5058
Fax: (813) 222-2837
Email: sdennis@akerman.com

FLABOTA - Tampa Bay Chapter
Mr. Bradley E. Powers, President
PO Box 1438
Tampa, Florida 33601-1438
(813)228-7411
Email: bpowers@fowlerwhite.com

Federal Bar Association (Tampa Bay
Chapter)
Ms. Katherine C. Lake, President
501 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1700
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813) 222-2072
Fax: (813) 229-8313
Email: klake@fowlerwhite.com

George Edgecomb Bar Association
Mr. Clinton Paris, President
201 N. Franklin St., Ste 2200
Tampa, Florida 33602-5822
(813)273-5092
Email: cparis@gray-robinson.com

Hillsborough County Association of
Criminal Defense Lawyers
Mr. Timothy Fitzgerald, President
708 E Jackson St.
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813)228-0095
Fax: (813)224-0629
Email: fflawpa@aol.com

Hillsborough County Bar Association
Mr. Lansing C. Scriven, President
442 W. Kennedy Blvd, Ste. 280
Tampa, Florida 33606
(813)254-8700
Fax: (813)254-8710
Email: lscriven@scrivenlaw.com

Hillsborough County Bar Association
Ms. Connie Pruitt, Executive Director
Tampa City Cntr., 201 N. Franklin St.,
Ste. 1750
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813)221-7777
Fax: (813)221-7778
Email: cpruitt@hillsbar.com

Plant City Bar Association
Ms. Veronica Prostko, President
15310 Amberly Drive, Ste. 205
Tampa, Florida 33647-2145
(813)866-1600
Fax: (813)866-1601
Email: vprostko@byrdinstitute.org

Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association
Mr. David J. Tong, President
201 E. Kenneth Blvd., Ste. 600
Tampa, Florida 33602-5181
(813)314-4500
Fax: (813)314-4555
Email: dtong@saxongilmore.com

**FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Bay,
Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson and
Washington)**

Bay County Bar Association
Mr. Michael S. Burke, President
P.O. Box 70
Panama City, Florida 32402
(850)769-1414
Fax: (850)784-0857
Email: mburke@burkeblue.com

Panhandle Bar Association
Mr. Frank A. Baker, President
4431 Lafayette St.
Marianna, Florida 32446-3633
(850)525-3633
Fax: (850)526-2714
Email: bakerf@phonl.com

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Palm Beach)

B'nai B'rith Justice Unit No. 5360
Mr. Ted Leopold, President
2925 PGA Blvd., Ste. 200
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410
(800)699-1914
Fax: (561)697-2383
Email: tleopold@riccilaw.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Palm Bch. Co.)
Ms. Victoria Anne Vilchez, President
2161 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Ste. 401
West Palm Beach, Florida 33409
(561)471-0001
Fax: (561)689-5880
Email: vilchezlaw@palmbeachbar.org

Federal Bar Association (Palm Beach
County Chapter)
Mr. David P. Ackerman, President
222 Lakeview Ave., Ste. 1330
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561) 838-4100
Email: dackerman@alslaw.com

FLABOTA - Palm Beach Chapter
Mr. William Wheaton Price, President
320 Fern St.
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-5802
(561)659-3212
Fax: (561)659-0323
Email: wprice@wpricepa.com

F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. Bar
Association
Mr. Edrick Barnes, President
1615 Forum Place Ste. 3B
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-2316
(561)616-3266
Fax: (561)616-3333
Email: ebarnes@liggiolaw.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (S. Palm Beach Co.)
Ms. Lisa Meryl Peraza, President
1801 N. Military Trl., Ste 200
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-1810
(561)394-0500
Fax: (561)394-3862
Email: lperara@hodgsonruss.com

Hispanic Bar of Palm Beach County
Ms. Miriam Acosta-Castriz, President
1201 U.S. Hwy. 1, Ste. 205
North Palm Beach, Florida 33408
(561)625-1122
Fax: (561)625-1107
Email: vierni@aol.com

Palm Beach Association of Criminal
Defense Lawyers
Mr. John Howe, President
750 S. Dixie Highway
Boca Raton, Florida 33432
(561)395-0000
Fax: (561)395-9093
Email: jhowe@lavellebrown.com

Palm Beach County Bar Association
Mr. Theodore Jon Leopold, President
2925 PGA Blvd., Ste. 200
Palm Beach Garden, Florida 33410-
2911
(800)699-1914
Fax: (561)697-2383
Email: tleopold@riccilaw.com

Palm Beach County Bar Association
Ms. Patience A. Burns, Executive
Director
1601 Belvedere Road, Ste. 302 E.
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
(561)687-2800
Fax: (561)687-9007
Email: pburns@palmbeachbar.org

Palm Beach County Trial Lawyers
Association
Mr. Walter C. Jones IV, President
3555 Northlake Blvd.
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33403
(561) 775-1442
Fax: (561) 775-8099
Email: walterjones@gardenslaw.com

Palm Beach County Trial Lawyers
Association

Ms. Susan Maynor, Executive Director
7900 Glades Road, Ste. 650
Boca Raton, Florida 33434
(561)999-9490
Fax: (561)886-0427
Email: sglick@pbctla.org

South Palm Beach County Bar
Association

Mr. Jeffrey S. Marks, President
2499 Glades Road
Boca Raton, Florida 33431
(561)416-9801
Fax: (561)416-9805

South Palm Beach County Bar Associa-
tion

Ms. Melissa D. Kelly, Executive
Director
7900 Glades Road, Ste. 330
Boca Raton, Florida 33434
(561)482-3838
Fax: (561)477-8592
Email: email@southpalmbeachbar.org

SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Monroe)

Monroe County Bar Association
Mr. Joshua Blacksten, President
P.O. Box 4020
Key West, Florida 33041
(305)295-3155
Fax: (305)295-3164
Email: blaxn@msn.com

Upper Keys Bar Association

Mr. John A. Jabro, President
90311 Overseas Hwy., Ste. B
Tavernier, Florida 33070
(305)852-9233
Fax: (305)852-0686
Email: jjabro@aol.com

**SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
(Broward)**

B'nai B'rith Justice Unit No. 5207
Mr. Todd I. Stone, President
200 E. Broward Blvd., Ste. 1500
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
(954) 764-6660

Broward Association of Criminal
Defense Lawyers

Mr. Jason Kreiss, President
One Financial Plaza, Ste. 1611
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33394
(954)525-1971
Fax: (954)525-1978
Email: jkreissl@aol.com

Broward Christian Legal Society
Mr. Thomas J. Shea III, President

644 SE 4th Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3102
(954)389-5270
Fax: (954)764-6789
Email: tjshealaw@msn.com

Broward County Bar Association

Mr. Timothy L. Bailey, President
2335 E. Atlantic Blvd., Ste. 300
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062-5244
(954)941-4920
Email: bandbpa@bellsouthnet

Broward County Bar Association

Mr. Art Goldberg, Executive Director
1051 S. E. Third Ave.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316
(954)764-8040
Fax: (954)764-8060
Email: artg@browardbar.org

Broward County Hispanic Bar
Association

Ms. Ileana Maria Almeida, President
600 N.E. 3rd Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304-2618
(954)522-7171
Fax: (954)522-8481
Email: ileanalaw@aol.com

Broward County Trial Lawyers Associa-
tion

Mr. Robert Rogers, President
1141 S.E. Second Ave.
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
(954)523-2800
Fax: (954) 523-2732
Email: rrogers392@aol.com

Broward County Trial Lawyers
Association
Ms. Cindy Wilkinson, Executive Director
1274 West Forest Hill Blvd., Ste. 28-B
Wellington, Florida 33414
(561)333-0220
Fax: (561)333-1008
Email: cwilkinson@bctla.org

FAWL - Broward County Women
Lawyers Association
Ms. Jennifer Anzalone, President
100 S.E. 3 Avenue, #1100
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33394
(954)377-8100
Email: janzalone@fowler-white.com

FAWL - Fla. Association for Women
Lawyers (Nova Univ.)
Ms. Susan Dubman, President
NSU Law School 3305 College Blvd.
Davie, Florida 33314
(954)554-5631
Email: dubmans@nsu.law.nova.edu

FLABOTA - Fort Lauderdale Chapter
Mr. Jeff Steven Abers, President
PO Box 14519
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33302-4519
(954)463-0585
Fax: (954)463-0585
Email: jabers@faziodisalvo.com

Fla. Council of Bar Association Presi-
dents
Ms. Vene M. Hamilton, President
9050 Pines Blvd., Ste. 300
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024-6456
(954)442-1099
Fax: (954)437-4675
Email: vene.hamilton@med.va.gov

Federal Bar Association (Broward Co.
Chapter)
Mr. Bruce Udolf, President
200 E. Broward Blvd., Floor 15
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
(954)527-2486
Fax: (954)333-4086
Email: bruce.udolf@ruden.com

North Broward Bar Association
Mr. Patrick B. Giunta, President
2189 S.E. 9th St.
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062
(954)788-8500
Fax: (954)788-8400
Email: pbg@bghr.net

South Broward Bar Association
Mr. Tom Conrad, President
4000 Hollywood Boulevard, Ste. 705-S
Hollywood, Florida 33021-6751
(954)989-8775
Fax: (954)967-6536

T. J. Reddick Bar Association
Ms. Roshawn J. Banks, President
P.O. Box 25978
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33320
(954)747-1843
Email: rbanks@thealllawcenter.com

EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Brevard and Seminole)

Brevard County Bar Association
Mr. Stephan G. Charpentier, President
2285 W. Eau Gallie Blvd.
Melbourne, Florida 32935
(321)308-8020
Fax: (321) 308-8026
Email: steve@brevardlawyer.com

Brevard County Bar Association
Ms. Susan P. Gunter, Executive Director
1 Oleander St., Ste. 3
Cocoa, Florida 32952
(321)617-9005
Fax: (321)617-9030
Email: bcba@brevardbar.org

Seminole County Bar Association
Mr. Terry Lytle Bledsoe, President
180 N. Park Ave., Ste. 200
Winter Park, Florida 32789-7401
(407)647-8911
Fax: (407)628-4994
Email: tbledsoe@schwartzlawfirm.net

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee and St. Lucie)

Indian River County Bar Association
Mr. Lewis W. Murphy, Jr., President
817 Beachland Blvd.
Vero Beach, Florida 32963
(772)231-1900
Fax: (772)231-4387
Email: wmurphy@murphywalker.com

Martin County Bar Association
Mr. Richard Levenstein, President
853 S.E. Monterey Common Blvd.
Stuart, Florida 34996
(772)288-0048
Fax: (772)288-0049
Email: rlevenstein@ksslawyer.com

Martin County Bar Association
Ms. Michelle D. Andrade, Executive Director
1833 S.E. Washington St.
Stuart, Florida 34997
(772)485-2835
Email: mdandrademcba@hotmail.com

Okeechobee Bar Association
Ms. Elizabeth A. Maxwell, President
405 N.W. Third St.
Okeechobee, Florida 34972-4128
(863)763-1119
Fax: (863)763-1179
Email: okeechobeelawyer@yahoo.com

Port St. Lucie Bar Association
Mr. Steve Messer, President
1555 St. Lucie Nest Blvd. N.W., Ste. 202
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986
(772)879-3000
Fax: (772)879-3098
Email: messermesserlaw@aol.com

St. Lucie County Bar Association
Mr. Joel Christian Zwemer, President
1903 S. 25th. St.
Fort Pierce, Florida 34947
(772)464-7700
Fax: (772)464-7877
Email: jzwemer@deanmead.com

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee)

Cape Coral Bar Association
Mr. Robert Burandt, President
1714 Cape Coral Parkway
Cape Coral, Florida 339104
(239) 542-4733
Fax: (239)542-9203
Email: robert@capecoralattorney.com

Charlotte County Bar Association
Mr. Michael Wilson, President
17801 Murdock Circle, Ste. A
Port Charlotte, FL 33948
(941) 624-2700
Email: mike@owpa.com

Collier County Bar Association
Ms. M. Jean Rawson, President
400 Fifth Ave. South, Ste. 300
Naples, Florida 34102
(239)263-8206
Fax: (239)263-8472
Email: mjrmickey@aol.com

Collier County Bar Association
Ms. Courtney Curatolo, Executive Director
3301 Tamiami Trail East, Bldg. L
Naples, Florida 34112
(239)774-8711
Fax: (239)775-5858
Email: ccba@earthlink.net

FAWL - Collier County Women's Bar Association
Ms. Jacqueline J. Buyze, President
5551 Ridgewood Drive, Ste. 501
Naples, Florida 34108-2719
(239)514-1000
Fax: (239)514-0377
Email: jbuyze@gfpac.com

Federal Bar Association (Fort Myers Chapter)
Mr. Thomas M. Dougherty, President
2225 First St.
Fort Myers, Florida 33901-2901
(239)334-9500
Email: thomasd@cyberstreet.com

Federal Bar Association (Southwest Fla. Chapter)

Mr. Bill Berke, President
1003 Del Prado Blvd., Ste. 300
Cape Coral, Florida 33904
(239)549-6689
Fax: (239)549-3331
Email: berkelaw@yahoo.com

Hendry-Glades Bar Association
Ms. Alison C. Hussey, President
PO Box 2280

LaBelle, Florida 33975
(863)675-5800
Fax: (863)675-4998
Email: alisonhussey@paveselaw.com

FAWL - Lee County Association for Women Lawyers

Ms. Josephine Gagliardi, President
6361 Presidential Court, Ste. B
Fort Myers, Florida 33919-3585
(239)481-4435
Fax: (239)481-8432
Email: jgagli6361@aol.com

FLABOTA - Southwest Florida Chapter

Mr. James M. Scarmozzino, President
1617 Hendry St., Ste. 313
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
(239)334-1600
Fax: (239)334-7979
Email: scarmo@earthlink.net

Lee County Bar Association

Mr. J. Tom Smoot, III, President
1533 Hendry St.
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
(239)337-7037
Fax: (239)332-7825
Email: tom@tsmoot.com

Lee County Bar Association

Ms. Dinah Leach, Executive Director
Post Office Box 1387
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-1387
(239)334-0047
Fax: (239)334-0523
Email: dinah.leach@leebar.org

National Bar Association (S.W. Fla. Chapter)

Mr. Donald Isaac, President
Post Office Box 219
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-0219
(239)334-4554
Fax: (239)334-3042
Email: don.issac@frls.org

Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association

Ms. Diane Jensen, President
Post Office Drawer 1507
Fort Myers, Florida 33902
(239)336-6231
Fax: (239)332-2243
Email: dianejensen@paveselaw.com

