

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **DINNER
HONORING
RETIRED
MAGISTRATE
JUDGES**
June 09, 2015
- **FEDERAL
PRACTICE:
A PRIMER FOR
SUMMER
ASSOCIATES**
June 29, 2015
- **ANNUAL
SUPREME COURT
REVIEW AND
JUDGE BARRY
RUSSELL AWARDS**
October 08, 2015

FBA - LA OFFICERS

President
Kenneth D. Sulzer
Proskauer Rose, LLP

President-Elect
David K. Willingham
Caldwell Leslie &
Proctor, PC

Treasurer
Matthew W. Close
O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Secretary
Hilary Potashner
United States Federal
Defender

Associate Editor
Kristina Starr Azlin
Holland & Knight, LLP

Visit our website:
www.fbala.org

STATE OF THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT

By Jose (Joe) Perez

On March 12, 2015, the Federal Bar Association, Los Angeles Chapter, presented its annual "State of the Circuit/District" luncheon at the downtown Los Angeles Doubletree Hotel. The event, which gave attorneys an opportunity to interact with court leadership and learn about the issues confronting federal courts in our Circuit, featured Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, District Judge Virginia A. Phillips and Chief Magistrate Judge Suzanne H. Segal of the U.S. District Court, and Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sheri Bluebond of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Each judge discussed the current state of their court, commenting on issues such as filing statistics, budget concerns, newly appointed judges, new and ongoing court programs and strategic plans.

After a brief introduction by Chapter President Kenneth D. Sulzer, Judge Mary M. Schroeder noted that the Circuit Court's load of immigration cases

continues to be high. And she thanked practitioners in our District for their continued willingness to support the courts not only in private practice, but also by agreeing to serve as judges. Also, Judge Schroeder informed us that the new courthouse to be constructed in Los Angeles is progressing well under the leadership of architect Craig Hartman, who also helmed the award-winning restoration and remodel of the James R. Browning U.S. Court of Appeals Building in San Francisco. As for new projects, the Circuit Court is establishing a coordinated education program about the judiciary in cooperation with state courts and the Anthony Kennedy Learning Center in Sacramento. Judge Schroeder hopes that this new program will become a model for other jurisdictions to educate the public about the role of the courts. In addition, the Circuit Court plans to hold two summits later this year to discuss reforms and improvements relating to jury trials and prisoner litigation, respec-

tively. The prisoner litigation summit aims to identify ways of effectively resolving prison issues to reduce the amount of related federal litigation.

Next at the lectern was Judge Virginia Phillips, who shared that our District continues to be one of the busiest in the nation. While the national weighted average caseload ("WAC") per judge is 533 cases, the District's WAC last year was 664. Out of 91 districts, only 16 have a WAC of over 600. More specifically, District judges tried 160 civil cases, which on average went to trial 19 months after filing. In addition, the District handled more copyright and trademark cases than any other U.S. district. Currently, the District manages its high caseload with a roster that includes a temporary judgeship expiring in April of 2016. Notably, Judge Phillips added, the Court will not be able to fill the resulting vacancy when a judge retires or elects senior status unless the temporary judgeship is renewed. This would inevitably further strain the District's already limited resources.

(continued on page 6)

SCENES FROM RECENT FBA-LA PROGRAMS



(l. to r.) Kimberly M. Singer, Amy Pomerantz, and Anna Faircloth



(l. to r.) Cathy Winter and Hon. Judith C. Chirlin



(l. to r.) Danielle Peebles Richards and Christina Turner



(l. to r.) Kenneth D. Sulzer, Bankruptcy Judge Sheri Bluebond, Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder, and Matthew W. Close
Photo Courtesy of the Bankruptcy Court

STATE OF THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT



(l. to r.) Magistrate Chief Judge Suzanne H. Segal
Photo Courtesy of the Bankruptcy Court



District Judge Virginia A. Phillips



(l. to r.): Steve Sabel and Shane Palmer



(l. to r.) Lovee Sarenas, Albert Sheen, and Bankruptcy Judge Richard M. Neiter. Judge Neiter received a framed copy of the Federal Lawyer Judicial Profile written by Jeffrey C. Krause at the State of the Circuit/District luncheon.

Younger Lawyers Division Happenings

by Erin Murphy

The Younger Lawyers Division (“YLD”) continues to serve an active contingent of rising attorneys in 2015. Helmed by YLD Co-Chairs Sandhya Ramadas and Jeff Chemerinsky, both Assistant U.S. Attorneys, the YLD aims to engage the newest members of the Los Angeles legal community with the FBA.

In its first event of the New Year, the YLD hosted another installment of its well-attended Brown Bag Lunch series. During these lunches, members of the federal judiciary meet informally with younger attorneys to offer insight into effective federal practice.

On January 13, District Court Judge Dale S. Fischer and Magistrate Judge Jean Rosenbluth met in Judge Fischer’s courtroom to participate in this unique YLD event. Starting with their respective backgrounds, Judge Fischer and Judge Rosenbluth revealed two unique paths to the federal bench.

Judge Fischer recalled attending college in Pennsylvania until the Kent State shootings incited campus riots throughout the country. After her campus closed, Judge Fischer’s husband was drafted into the Vietnam War and stationed in Germany for three years. During that time, Judge Fischer worked at a German factory, a grueling experience that encouraged her to finish college upon returning to the United States. With an eye toward law school, Judge Fischer finished three years of college in three semesters. After graduating from Harvard Law School, she worked in private practice for 17 years until she

became a judge for the Los Angeles Municipal Court. Fondly recalling her time at the Hollywood branch court, she remembered having the most fun handling misdemeanor cases. As a Superior Court judge, she presided over felony trials, but eventually yearned for a broader variety of case work. President George W. Bush appointed Judge Fischer to the Central District Court of California in 2003. Since then, she has presided over the full range of federal litigation and court administration, including chairing the Central District Criminal Justice Act Committee and the Case Management Committee.

Like Judge Fischer, Judge Rosenbluth traversed an unconventional path to the federal bench. After two years in college, Judge Rosenbluth decided to take a break from classes. She worked at a rare record store earning minimum wage, an experience which, like Judge Fischer’s time working in a factory, encouraged her to complete her education. After graduating from Barnard College, her first job was an entry level writing position at a history magazine. Throughout her 20s, she worked as a music reporter for publications like the Los Angeles Times, Rolling Stone, Daily Variety and Billboard. At 30 years old, Judge Rosenbluth switched careers and attended USC Gould School of Law. After law school, she clerked for Judge Ferdinand F. Fernandez on the Ninth Circuit and the late Judge Alicemarie Stotler in the Central District of California. Judge Rosenbluth did not enter private practice, and instead spent several years in the U.S. Attorney’s Office, where

(continued on page 10)



(l. to r.) Ferrell Alman, Jr., Will Rosenthal, and Helena Tseregounis



(l. to r.) Ariella Perry, Erin Murphy, and Koral Fusselman



(l. to r.) Nicole Lehle and Alex Meneberg

President's Message



Kenneth D. Sulzer
FBA Chapter
President
Proskauer Rose, LLP

As I watched the weather on the East Coast and the Midwest this winter, I was thankful for living in Southern California. This winter and spring our chapter did some interesting things.

The season was highlighted in March with the State of the Circuit. It was especially nice to see **Judge Mary Schroeder** from the Ninth Circuit (standing in for **Chief Judge Thomas**) and **Virginia Phillips** (standing in for **Chief Judge King**) in addition to **Chief Magistrate Judge Suzanne Segal** and **Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sheri Bluebond**. I was happy to have Judge Segal tell her fellow judges that FBA LA was the “judges” bar association. Thank you to **John Carson** of Arent Fox and **Matthew Close** of O’Melveny & Myers for organizing the program.

We continue to seek diversity on our Board in all of its iterations. This last winter we added Board Members **Rob Kohn**, **Carol Gillam**, and **Haley McIntosh**. **Rob** is the National FBA Litigation Section Chair who will be instrumental in helping our chapter improve its integration with the National Association. **Carol** is a plaintiff’s employment and civil rights lawyer with extensive experience in both class actions and in single-plaintiff discrimination matters. She will add some perspective from the plaintiff’s bar that has previously not been present on our Board. **Haley** is a commercial litigation partner at Jones Day, with a great breadth of federal practice. We will add a few more new Board members in the coming months.

We are very excited that the FBA and the Bankruptcy Court have decided they will be cosponsoring a **Constitution Day** celebration in September. The Bankruptcy Court and **Judge Sandra Klein** will be sponsoring an essay contest from local high schools about the Constitution and presenting the awards during the week of Constitution Day at the Federal Courthouse, on September 15, 2015.

The Younger Lawyers had their happy hour at the Blue Cow in January. The UCLA Student FBA Group had a fine program in February. A “brown bag” lunch with **Judge Fischer** and **Judge Rosenbluth** was well attended. Some

“thank-yous” are owed to **Judge Wilner** and **Judge Gutierrez**, as well as to **Robin Crowther** of Caldwell Leslie and **Josh Hamilton** of Paul Hastings for a terrific “Taking the Step” program for young lawyers in the Federal Courthouse on March 7.

The Annual Judges’ reception was Wednesday, May 13 in the Tom Bradley Room at the top of City Hall. Once again to a full house we honored our judicial officers for their service. It was a perfect afternoon, beautiful view, amazing sunset, and the good cheer of the Bar and the Judiciary. Some of us even had the opportunity to talk with **Mayor Garcetti** before the event. We owe a thank you to **Judge Fitzgerald** and to **Jeff Rutherford** of Crowell & Moring for putting together the Judges’ reception.

Coming Up

We will say goodbye to six retiring Magistrate Judges: **Stephen J. Hillman**, **Ralph Zarefsky**, **Victor B. Kenton**, **Margaret A. Nagle**, **Robert N. Block** and **Carla M. Woehrl**. The big farewell party will be a June 9 dinner at the Biltmore in downtown L.A. This should be the special event of the season!

As many law firms in town prepare to receive summer clerks for the beginning of another summer we remind them of the summer law clerk program that will take place June 29, 2015 in the Spring Street Courthouse.

We continue to work on issues relating to our under-staffed court. We are hopeful and doing our level best to keep our temporary judgeship for another year. We have worked closely with **Judge King**, **Senator Feinstein’s** office, as well as **Terry Nafisi** and our Congressional Delegation.

We look forward to a new courthouse in August 2016, as we welcome the new **Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Thomas** and new **Bankruptcy Chief Judge Bluebond**.

Enjoy the Spring and see you at the June 9th dinner!

Taking the Step Program: Giving New Attorneys a Jump Start on Federal Courts

By Danielle Peebles Richards and
Avi Rutschman

On March 7, 2015, new attorneys eager to learn the ins-and-outs of federal civil practice gathered at the Federal District Courthouse on North Spring Street to attend the FBA-LA's "Taking the Step to Federal Court." Over the course of four hours, U.S. District Court Judge Philip S. Gutierrez and U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael H. Wilner, with the help of Moderator Robyn C. Crowther of Caldwell Leslie & Protector, P.C. and a group of volunteer attorneys, doled sage advice to nascent practitioners on proper etiquette and procedure in federal court.



Attendees learned about pretrial topics such as the differences between state and federal court, early Rule 26 meetings, disclosures, scheduling conferences, meet and confer conferences, and discovery hearings. The event concluded with an overview of

Danielle Peebles Richards
Crowell & Moring LLP

filing a summary judgment motion. Along the way, practicing attorneys helped to



Avi Rutschman
Crowell & Moring LLP

reinforce key concepts by acting out both laudatory, and less than laudatory, behavior in the context of a mock sexual harassment class action.

Judge Gutierrez opened the program with a discussion of courtroom etiquette and practices. He advised litigators to not abuse a judge's or a court deputy's time. Whether writing a brief or presenting oral argument, a judge always expects a litigator to have a clear understanding of his or her goals, to be precise, and to avoid repetitive arguments. New litigators should also read local and chamber rules closely, especially Local Rule 7-13. Judge Gutierrez also reminded attorneys to stand when addressing the court, not to interrupt the judge, and to refer to the court as a whole rather than the judge individually. Lastly, Judge Gutierrez warned attorneys to remember that courtroom etiquette is always expected—thin walls allow for rude, acrimonious, or contentious behavior to be heard even in the judge's chambers.

Robyn Crowther followed Judge Gutierrez with an

overview of the differences between state and federal court. Federal court offers a quicker avenue to relief, with time to trial averaging 18 months as opposed to over two years in state court. And with federal judges hearing both civil and criminal matters, unlike state court where the dockets are divided, parties will find a federal judge's calendar far less flexible than a state court judge's calendar. Crowther also advised attendees to consider the differences in jury pools—the Central District stretches from Riverside to Ventura County and draws on jurors from multiple counties, whereas state courts are typically limited to a single county. She also discussed the differences in discovery practice between the two forums. Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires parties to make initial disclosures. California courts have no such equivalent. Parties in state court are also entitled to 35 interrogatories, whereas federal court allows for only 25. Lastly, Crowther mentioned that a party in state court, under C.C.P. § 170.6, can issue a no-questions-asked challenge to a judge's assignment. Federal courts do not provide this opportunity. Overall, she encouraged attorneys to consider which system best fits the client's needs.

Judge Wilner rounded out the discussion with an overview of magistrate judges' roles in federal litigation. Most attorneys are familiar with magistrate judges functioning as gatekeepers who resolve discovery disputes and other pre-trial issues. But the ADR Pilot Program also grants magistrate judges the power to hear entire cases. Unlike district court judges, magistrate judges hear only civil cases. Therefore, parties are afforded all of the advantages of litigating in federal court without having to worry that their case may be bumped by an influx of criminal cases.

Next, the program moved into demonstrations of a scheduling conference and hearing, the meet and confer process, and the summary judgment process. Scott Carlton of Paul Hastings, LLP and Angela Machala of Scheper, Kim, & Harris, LLP mimicked what not to do at an early scheduling conference. Their rendition of two bickering attorneys drove home the importance

(continued to page 12)

State of the Circuit/District (cont. from page 1)



*Jose (Joe) Perez
Proskauer Rose,
LLP*

Chief Magistrate Judge Suzanne H. Segal, who is in her final months of service as Chief, was next to offer her comments. Last year, the magistrate judges' dockets continued to reflect the District's high caseload. As Judge Segal noted, the District's 25 magistrate judges resolved 1,512 habeas cases, almost 700 civil rights cases, and over 1,000 Social Security appeals. They also resolved more than 3,000 non-dispositive matters, most of which were discovery disputes, and presided over nearly 200 settlement conferences. In addition, the magistrate judges' dockets included more than 10,000 criminal proceedings.

Outside the courtroom, magistrate judges remain engaged in community outreach. For instance, many judges participated in Judge Sandra R. Klein's "Power Lunches," which invited high school students to lunch with the judges. Also, Judges Gandhi, Abrams, Sagar, Kato and Wilner participated in the "CASA" Program, which is a post-guilty plea diversion program giving individuals a chance to avoid a lengthy prison sentence by proving they can work while remaining drug free and out of trouble.

In terms of staffing, Judge Segal expressed the District's satisfaction with the addition of Judge Kenly Kiya Kato to the bench. Judge Kato, who is a former Deputy Federal Public Defender and private practitioner, was sworn in on July 1, 2014, and maintains chambers in Riverside. In 2015, the District expects the retirement of Judges Hillman, Zarefsky, Kenton, Block, Nagle, and Woehrle, who have given our District over 100 combined years of service. Judge Segal noted that while selections to fill those vacancies have been made, they cannot yet be made public. But she added that we can expect individuals with distinguished backgrounds and many years of federal practice experience to join the District's bench. Finally, Judge Segal, whose term as Chief Magistrate Judge is drawing to a close, thanked her colleagues and the FBA for their support and assistance throughout the years.

Bringing the luncheon to a lively close was Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sheri Bluebond, who began her four-year term at the Court's helm on January 1. Judge Bluebond noted that our

District finished last year with 11.9% more total filings than any other district in the nation. The District also led the country in pro se filings with a total of 13,329, representing over 23% of the court's caseload. Although high, those statistics reflect a steady decline in filings that the Court has been experiencing over the last few years, save for those brought pro se, as a result of our improving economy. This decline has significantly affected the court's budget, which is now down to slightly more than \$17M from a high of more than \$25M in 2012.

In terms of judgeships, Judge Bluebond shared that Judge Ahart retired on January 1, 2015. His seat is slated to be filled by Martin Barash of Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP. In addition, Judge Scott H. Yun was formally invested on February 12 to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Judge Robin Riblet. Currently, Judge Riblet serves our district on recall, along with Judges Mund, Thompson, Ahart and Zive.

TAKING THE STEP TO FEDERAL COURT PROGRAM



Cameron H. Biscay



(l. to r.) District Judge Philip S. Gutierrez and Kenneth D. Sulzer



Angela Machala

JUDGE BARRY RUSSELL AWARD WINNERS

For more than 25 years, Judge Barry Russell has recognized students from each of the area ABA accredited law schools for their excellence in federal practice, with a stipend and a plaque at a special FBA program held in the fall. The more than 100 award winners are listed below. From 1989-1996 a Whittier law student also received the honor. Their names are on page 11. The Los Angeles Chapter of the FBA thanks Judge Russell for his commitment in honoring excellence and promoting federal practice.

Year	Pepperdine	U.S.C.	UCLA	Southwestern	Loyola
2014	Catherine Eschbach	Narian Kumar	Shane Palmer	Steven L. Lundberg	Ryan Phillip Patterson
2013	Kelsey Halverson	Ashley Kaplan	Katherine Cheng	Nicholas Mitchell	Olga Novak
2012	Amanda Martin	Thomas Alcorn	Cassidy Hunter Hayes	Hannah Sweiss	Matthew L. Andrews
2011	John Bickford	Lauren Wright	Robert Arnav	Jesse Terrell	John Toton
2010	Jacob Houmand	David Clark	David Jason Lyon	Kristin Marker	Artak Barsegyan
2009	Michelle Pulley	Julia Brodsky	Eric Lindberg	Veeken Tashjian	David Robert Albertson
2008	Paul Wayne Allen	Abraham Tabaie	Maureen S. Carroll	Brian Ramsey	S. Alexandeer Johnson
2007	Wendi Rae Mangiagli Gundersen	Carlton Morse	Caleb Bartel	Bahar Gelsin	Mark T. Hong
2006	Daniel M. Parlow	Michael Minshen Lee	Brette Steele	Todd A. Fertig	Michael J. Gomez
2005	Jennifer Purpero	Kimberly Baker	Anjuli Mc Reynolds	Joel G. Weinberg	Michael N. Delune
2004	Garland Doty Murphy, IV	Andrew Farthing	Jonathan Marshal Saben	Mary Swift	Raven Ward
2003	Virginia Milstead	Erin Morgan	Brad Schneider	Dorothy Lin	Victoria A. Brunn
2002	Jeff N. Evans	Marybeth Lipp	John A. Hribar	Tara L. Taguchi	Andrew J. Sokolowski
2001	Allison Hunt	Katherine M. Forster	Amy Tennelle Whitehurst	Aaron De Leest	David Mike Azema
2000	Carissa Lynch	Charles Pell	Maren Hegedorn Calvert	Robert J. Ounjian	Pamela Graham
1999	Christopher Jeter	Kamran Caspar Partovi	Joshua E. Anderson	Makiko Iwanami	Alan Heinrich
1998	John W. Corrington	Rex Glensy	Kristopher Lange Hanson	Adam E. Chaikin	Kathryn E. White
1997	Christopher Frost	Linda K. Thomas	Christine D'Angelo	Robin McConnell	Brian Forbath
1996	James J. Cash	Sharon Tomkins	Kristen Holmquist	Jared E. Klipfel	Caroline Zuk
1995	Joanne Kuhns Larson	Seth Michael MacDonald Stodder	Daryl Hall	Tiffany Doon Silva	Matthew C. Brown
1994	Jon Bradley Hill	John P. Pomeranz	Steven Hawkins	Edward L. Katsnelson	Joan Marie Burns
1993	Michael Murphy	Kym Renee Wulfe	Roger Janeway	Karin Hombs Pagnanelli	Wendy Sue Albers
1992	Linda Gibb	Michael O'Sullivan	Thomas Waldman	E. Michael Kwan	Ellen S. Kornblum
1991	Stephen Russo	Abraham M. Rudy	Robert Dellangelo	Angela Veltre	Kevin Lawrence Sherry
1990	William White	Alexandra M. Day	Stephen L. Davis	Anne W. Jaskoski	Sibil D. Marshall
1989	Ronald Boras	John David Carpenter	Cathy Paul	Colleen M. McGurrian	Michael Desmond Fitts
1988			Marsha Hymanson		Andrew Dean Morrison
			Carlos Goodman		



Trusted resources, proven results.

RUST CONSULTING IS HONORED TO SUPPORT THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LOS ANGELES CHAPTER OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION.

Unmatched subject matter expertise built over nearly 5,000 engagements including:

- ▲ Legal settlement administration
- ▲ Data breach responses
- ▲ Recalls
- ▲ Compliance remediation programs

Our knowledgeable, experienced personnel are bolstered by the firm's capacity and scalability in notification, claims processing, contact center, and fund distribution. And our clients can rest assured that project data is secure through Rust's "unified compliance posture" of audits, certifications, and best practices.

Contact us to learn more about how Rust is prepared to onboard your projects regardless of size and level of complexity.


[LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW RUST CAN HELP YOU.](#)

ERIC BISHOP
625 MARQUETTE AVENUE, SUITE 880
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402
D 612.359.2988
E EBISHOP@RUSTCONSULTING.COM



The Los Angeles Chapter of the Federal Bar Association thanks Rust Consulting for its support of our programs through its advertising in our newsletter

UPCOMING FBA-LA PROGRAMS




LOS ANGELES
Federal Bar Association

*FBA LA AND FBA OC WILL HOST A DINNER IN HONOR OF OUR SIX
RETIRING MAGISTRATE JUDGES: **STEPHEN J. HILLMAN,**
RALPH ZAREFSKY, VICTOR B. KENTON, MARGARET A. NAGLE,
ROBERT N. BLOCK AND CARLA M. WOEHRL*

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015
MILLENNIUM BILTMORE HOTEL
506 S. GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90071
SELF PARKING AT PERSHING SQUARE \$7, VALET PARKING AT BILTMORE \$22

SCHEDULE:	5:00 P.M.	REGISTRATION
	5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.	RECEPTION
	6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.	DINNER
	7:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.	REMARKS



LOS ANGELES
Federal Bar Association

cordially invites you to attend

**FEDERAL PRACTICE:
A PRIMER FOR SUMMER ASSOCIATES**

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:30 A.M.
Lunch Will Be Provided

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTHOUSE
312 N. SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

Younger Lawyers Division (cont. from page 3)



*Erin Murphy,
Lightfoot, Steingard &
Sadowsky, LLP*

she worked as the Senior Litigation Counsel and Co-Chief of the Criminal Appeals Unit. When she left the U.S. Attorney's Office, she became the Director of Legal Writing and Advocacy and Clinical Professor of Law at the USC Gould School of Law. In 2011, she joined the federal bench as a Magistrate judge for the Central District of California.

Reflecting on their collective legal experience, Judge Fischer and Judge Rosenbluth offered advice to the group of budding federal practitioners. First, Judge Fischer advised all litigants to remember the varied and demanding caseload of a typical federal judge. In particular, she noted how the weight of the civil motion practice alone--up to twenty motions a week--adds to the pressure of timely resolving criminal cases. With this in mind, Judge Fischer offered specific ways in which litigants can help judges spend time efficiently on their cases. For starters, briefs should actually be brief and conform to the page limits set forth by the Local Rules. A brief should also clearly state what the party wants as early as possible, and omit an extensive procedural history unless it is relevant to the issue presented. Judge Fischer also advised against the use of verbose language when a

simpler expression is available. Brandon Wyman, an associate at Yoka & Smith LLP, appreciated hearing this advice. He said, "It was reassuring to hear that florid language can annoy rather than impress," and that a judge might instead prefer "a precise introduction containing exactly what you'd like."

Judge Fischer also urged litigants to remember how critical yet delicate their reputations are. Specifically, she urged all attorneys to ensure accurate case and record citations in their submissions. Without accurate citations, she noted, the authoring attorney loses credibility, which hurts both the client and the attorney. Regarding appearances, Judge Fischer reminded the YLD members to act professionally and refrain from sniping at opposing counsel.

On a similar note, Judge Rosenbluth implored litigants to be courteous to one another. As for their work, she advised the YLD members to take pride in what they do and learn to be good at it. Specifically, she urged all young attorneys to learn how to write well. Indeed, Judge Rosenbluth noted that, as young attorneys, YLD members can still teach themselves how to write. To help accomplish this, she offered the same valued advice she received during her first writing job at the history

magazine: obtain a very detailed grammar book, and read it cover-to-cover instead of passively using it as a reference guide. This advice resonated with Whitney Chelgren, an associate at Alston & Bird LLP. She agreed, "Most of us turn to grammar guides only as a resource when we have a specific issue or question in mind. But since we don't know what we don't know, we could all probably learn a lot from a full cover-to-cover read."

When it comes to submitting written work to the court, Judge Rosenbluth encouraged litigants to remember they are still telling a story. This is so even with the most cut-and-dry discovery motions. By making their stories as interesting as possible, litigants help their submissions stand out in the sometimes dull world legal writing.

In addition to the Brown Bag Lunch Series, the YLD hosts seasonal happy hours. On Wednesday, February 18, over 60 young attorneys met downtown at the Blue Cow Kitchen on Grand Avenue. The central location attracted attorneys from firms of all sizes and practices, judicial clerks, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and Deputy Federal Public Defenders. Like the Brown Bag lunch, the informal atmosphere allowed for relaxed discussions and

(continued on page 11)

PRESS RELEASES FROM THE COURTS



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: May 1, 2015

ROZELLA OLIVER APPOINTED AS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

The United States District Court for the Central District of California announces the appointment of Rozella Oliver as United States Magistrate Judge. Judge Oliver, who was sworn in on May 1, 2015, will sit in Los Angeles in the Court's Western Division. Judge Oliver succeeds retired Magistrate Judge Ralph Zarefsky.



In Memoriam

Mariana R. Pfaelzer
1926-2014

Served on the District Court from 1978-2015

Photo courtesy of the District Court

"Judge Pfaelzer was the epitome of what a federal judge ought to be. She presided with brilliance, analytical rigor, practicality, wisdom, grace, and courage. She was universally admired and respected by the bench and the bar, and was a role model to men and women alike. Those of us who had the opportunity to learn from her and the privilege of serving with her know the depth of the loss we suffered today."

- Honorable Chief Judge George H. King



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: April 13, 2015

GAIL J. STANDISH APPOINTED AS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

The United States District Court for the Central District of California announces the appointment of Gail J. Standish as United States Magistrate Judge. Judge Standish, who was sworn in on April 13, 2015, will sit in Los Angeles in the Court's Western Division.



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit
Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · (415) 355-8901 Fax

NEWS RELEASE

March 24, 2015

Contact: David Madden, (415) 355-8800

Martin Robb Barash Named Judge of U.S. Bankruptcy Court for Central California

SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced today the appointment of attorney Martin Robb Barash of Los Angeles to serve as a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

JUDGE BARRY RUSSELL AWARD WINNERS (cont. from page 7)

Whittier Law School - 1996: Tom Taulli; 1995: Jeffrey Bennett; 1994: Amanda Maki; 1993: Michael Golland; 1992: Asteghik Khajetoorians; 1991: Dana Gray; 1990: Thomas B. Campagna; 1989: Apolinar P. Castillo

Younger Lawyers Division *(cont. from page 10)*

meaningful networking. As usual, complimentary beverages and food were served thanks to the kind sponsorship of the following firms: Alston & Bird LLP, Bird Marella Boxer Wolpert Nessim Dooks Lincenberg & Rhow APC, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Munger Tolles & Olson LLP, Lightfoot Steingard & Sadowsky LLP, and Sidley Austin LLP. With the guidance of the YLD Co-Chairs, the event was organized by Erin Murphy (Lightfoot Steingard & Sadowsky LLP), Whitney Chelgren (Alston & Bird LLP), and Koral Fusselman (Kesselman Brantly & Stockinger LLP).

Given the success of these events, the YLD looks forward to a full year of serving the rising members of the Los Angeles federal community.

Taking the Step *(cont. from page 5)*

of professional courtesy. Judge Gutierrez and the attorneys used a mock scheduling hearing to demonstrate the importance of being intimately aware of the facts and issues in one's case, even at such an early stage. Federal judges expect attorneys to be informed about their case at any stage of litigation. Of utmost importance, the practitioners and judges agreed, was to have a good handle on the facts and what discovery will be needed.

In the second demonstration, Jason Wright of Jones Day, LLP and Cameron Biscay of O'Melveny & Myers, LLP enacted an unproductive meet and confer, resulting in a hearing with Judge Wilner. The skit highlighted the importance of addressing the judge's tentative ruling and avoiding arguments directed at opposing counsel. During a hearing, the litigator's only audience member should be the judge.

Finally, Jay Srinivasan of Gibson Dunn, LLP and Jeanne Fugate of Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, P.C. acted out a hearing on a motion for summary judgment before Judge Gutierrez. Litigators learned that they are expected to mind the law (by not misstating holdings), to mind the concerns of the judge (by addressing the tentative order) and to mind their manners (by not referring to opposing counsel by his or her first name). As with all court appearances, dress matters, and a litigator should always wear professional attire. Lastly, Judge Gutierrez told attendees that if the tentative ruling is in your favor, it is often best practice to submit your argument.

While smooth sailing is highly unlikely at the start of any legal career, the "Taking the Step to Federal Court" helped to ensure that the attendees, now versed in the expectations of federal judges, will be subjected to a less rocky beginning.

District Court Executive and Clerk of Court Retiring

Terry Nafisi, who serves as the District Court Executive and Clerk of Court for the United States District Court, Central District of California is retiring on June 30th. The United States District Court for the Central District of California serves more than 19 million people in seven counties. The District has three divisional locations, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, and Riverside, 28 authorized District Judges, 7 Senior Judges, 24 Magistrate Judges, 1 part-time Magistrate Judge, 152 judicial staff, and 240 clerk's office staff.

Ms. Nafisi is an active member of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chapter of the FBA. She has also been a regular contributor to the FBALawyer newsletter and has been a leader in bringing the rich legal history of the Central District to the public.



Terry Nafisi (with Magistrate Judge Wilner in the foreground) at a recent Los Angeles Chapter FBA Board meeting.



Terry Nafisi next to the 1930's panel of "312 North Spring Street through the Decades," which documents in photos the history of the building and the landmark cases that took place there. The display is on the 3rd floor, by the jury assembly room.

FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Los Angeles Chapter

PO Box 10065

Burbank, CA 91510

Phone: 818-843-1020

E-mail: fbala@emaoffice.com

website: fbala.org

If you are interested in supporting our programs through advertisement in our newsletter please contact Janine Nichols at 818-843-1020 or fbala@emaoffice.com

About Us

Federal Bar Association Mission Statement

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

The Federal Bar Association

The FBA represents the Federal legal profession. We consist of more than 15,000 federal lawyers, including 1,200 federal judges, who work together to promote the sound administration of justice and integrity, quality and independence of the judiciary. The FBA also provides opportunities for judges and lawyers to professionally and socially interact. and extends student scholarships.

“The premiere bar association serving the federal practitioner and judiciary.”

The Los Angeles Chapter

The Los Angeles Chapter is one of the oldest chapters of the FBA. Originally chartered in 1937, the Los Angeles Chapter covers the Los Angeles Division of the Central District of California.

With approximately 400 members, the Los Angeles Chapter is the largest in the Ninth Circuit. Members come from private practice, government agencies, military branches, law schools and the bench.

The Los Angeles Chapter is committed to meeting the needs of the federal practitioner through educational seminars, training programs and social functions. To join FBA-LA, log onto our website: www.fbala.org.