In 1985, a group of private and public practitioners dedicated to the legal community of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit set out to create a Bar Association that would pursue the higher interests of both Bench and Bar in the administration of justice. In the 35 years since its inception, the commitment from the Court and from our membership have allowed the Federal Circuit Bar Association® to grow into a forum for national and international dialogue of immense interest and importance; for robust scholarship, educational programming, and thought-leadership across industries; and for critical charitable, pro bono, and public service contributions.

Even with their vision for the organization, our founders surely could not have foreseen that, under the leadership of its first two Executive Directors George Hutchinson and Jim Brookshire and the association’s talented staff, the Federal Circuit Bar Association® would evolve to have a truly global impact while also serving as a force for good at a very personal level for pro bono clients, scholarship recipients, and individual members that participate in the organization’s many committees and programs. Nor could they have foreseen the unique challenges facing the Federal Circuit Bar Association and all of us in this 35th year. Yet I know they would be, as I am, deeply comforted to know that the organization is guided through these troubling times by our new Executive Director Deborah Miron. Deborah brings with her not only tremendous experience from her time as former Chief Administrative Judge and Director of Regional Operations for the Merit Systems Protection Board, Deputy Assistant General Counsel for the Navy, and past President of our own organization, but a calm and confident voice of leadership through uncertainty.

In the months ahead, Deborah, the association staff, the Board of Directors, and our committee leadership will be working together to continue the many traditions we have developed over the years — including continuing with our active calendar of programs, our pro bono, policy, and amicus initiatives, and our celebrations of community — all at a distance. And, this year, we will ask that you join us for special events to commemorate Jim’s long and distinguished tenure with the organization, Deborah’s new position, and the organization’s special anniversary.

I look forward to the day that we can all get together in person to celebrate these milestones. In the interim, I ask that you all join me in looking back on the last 35 years with pride and gratitude for all that our community has contributed, and in looking ahead to the next 35 years (and beyond) of our continued commitment to the Court and our community.
The FCBA is saddened by the passing of The Honorable Q. Todd Dickinson, a former head of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and a fixture in the patent community for decades, on Sunday, May 3, 2020. He was 67.

In 1997, Dickinson joined the USPTO. In 1998, he was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Deputy Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. The following year, he was appointed and confirmed as Assistant Secretary and Commissioner. He later became the first Undersecretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property & Director of the USPTO following the enactment of the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999. In 2001, he joined the law firm of Howrey Simon Arnold & White as co-chair of the Intellectual Property Practice Group, where he opened, recruited, and staffed the firm’s new San Francisco office. In 2004, he joined the General Electric Company as Vice President and Chief Intellectual Property Counsel. In 2008, he became Executive Director of the American Intellectual Property Law Association. In 2015, he joined the law firm of Novak Druce Connolly Bove + Quigg, which later merged with the law firm Polsinelli, PC. In 2019, he co-lectured a seminar in International IP Law at the George Washington University Law School. Among his many honors were his induction to the Intellectual Property Hall of Fame in 2012, and the naming in his honor of the Q. Todd Dickinson Inn of Court for IP Law in Pittsburgh, also in 2012.

Sources: Law.com and Pittsburg Post-Gazette
Oral Argument Opportunities for Newer Attorneys in the PTAB and Other Venues: On Tuesday, July 7 2020, the FCBA’s PTAB/TTAB committee hosted a webinar called “Oral Argument Opportunities for Newer Attorneys in the PTAB and Other Venues.” The webinar introduced the PTAB’s new “LEAP” program, but also included a broader discussion about oral argument opportunities for newer practitioner across venues, why they matter, why such programs have come about, and what each one of us can do to ensure oral argument opportunities for the next generation of lawyers. The speakers included The Honorable Scott Boalick, Chief Judge, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, The Honorable Virginia M. Kendall, District Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, The Honorable Jacqueline Wright Bonilla, Deputy Chief Judge, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and Vaishali Udupa, Vice President, Assistant General Counsel IP Litigation and Policy, Hewlett Packard Enterprise. The webinar was moderated by Megan Raymond of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP.

WEBCAST OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Make a difference! The Association’s members and their committees offer an extraordinary array of webcast programming each year. Check out the FCBA Committees here. Members are invited to suggest and to participate in quality programming. If you are interested in a particular topic, please contact your committee leaders. All programming is subject to a review and pre-approval process within the Association itself. For more upcoming FCBA event information, visit our website at http://www.fedcirbar.org/Programs-Sponsorship/Calendar-of-Events

TO LISTEN TO AUDIO RECORDINGS OF OUR PREVIOUS WEBCASTS, CLICK HERE.

THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT BAR JOURNAL SUBMISSIONS

The Federal Circuit Bar Journal (FCBJ) and the Federal Circuit Bar Association® invite authors to submit articles for publication consideration. FCBJ covers issues within the purview of the Federal Circuit Court which includes trademarks, patents, international trade, federal claims, and more. Vol. 30 seeks to publish articles that are both within legal purview of the Federal Circuit and address current societal issues.

Submissions should be sent to: FCBJ Editor-in-Chief at fcbj.eic@law.gwu.edu
SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION SERVICE

The Subscription Information Service is available to those in the community who have yet to become FCBA members. Subscribers can take advantage of the Association’s extraordinary library by gaining access to leadership insight in such areas as intellectual property, trade, innovation, and government contracts. A one year non-exclusive license for each subscriber is available, for instance, to current and past publications and program materials from the Bench & Bar® and Major Regional Programs.

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PRO BONO

Volunteers Needed

Thank you all for your continued dedication to the Pro Bono services offered by the Federal Circuit Bar Association®. We are reaching out regarding two separate but much needed initiatives. Firstly, we are seeking volunteers who specialize in or are familiar with benefits claims to assist our MSPB Pro Bono program. Secondly, we are seeking volunteers for our PTO Pro Bono program. Please contact Brooke Coleman at coleman@federbar.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for all that you do.
The Inventor Assistance Program (IAP)

Now Open for Possible Pro Bono Interest: International Inventor Assistance Program

IAP involves, among others, WIPO, WEF, Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office (EPI), the Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property (ASIPI), the International Federation of Inventors’ Association (IFIA), Novartis, Qualcomm, and the Federal Circuit Bar Association. It seeks to bring economically underprivileged inventors around the world in touch with counsel who might consider pro bono prosecution assistance to the inventor. The decision on whether to provide counsel assistance belongs to inventor and possible counsel. Currently, participating countries include Columbia, Morocco, South Africa, and the Philippines. Visit www.wipo.int/iap for more information.

Potential Pro Bono Counsel

The opportunity to join the list of interested pro bono counsel for the IAP outreach is open now. Please provide information here. Supplemental information on the IAP outreach is also available at here.

Inventor and OUS Supplemental Information Now Available

In addition to the general information provided below, supplemental background information is available for the IAP inventor and the outside the United States (OUS) attorney here.

Pro Bono Programs

Thank you for your continued service to the Federal Circuit Bar Association’s pro bono programs. Our pro bono programs are an excellent way to diversify your practice, build inroads to prospective clients, and achieve personal fulfillment through helping others. We are always looking to grow attorney participation in our programs, and encourage current participants to bring others on board. The Inventor Assistance Program through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is another avenue of pro bono service we are asking our attorneys to explore. WIPO’s program is similar to the FCBA/USPTO program and includes inventors from other countries.

We are actively seeking attorneys to assist with our MSPB program, so please make sure you are registered to receive cases by sending an email to Brooke Coleman at coleman@fedcirbar.org. Our circulation of MSPB and CAFC appeals to attorneys for proffering is pretty steady throughout each week. The USPTO pro bono program circulates an “invention summary” a list of patent prosecution matters for proffering about once every two months. We are expecting to circulate another invention summary at the end of September. If you have any questions or concerns about our pro bono programs, please contact Brooke Coleman at (202) 780-0970 or coleman@fedcirbar.org.
TRANSITION TO THE NEW FASTCASE!

For many years members of the Federal Circuit Bar Association® have enjoyed free access to Fastcase, one of the nation’s leading legal research platforms. Coming this September, bar members will default to an upgraded version of the platform. “We are thrilled to roll out this new version of Fastcase to members of the Federal Circuit Bar Association®. Fastcase has worked for years to make the research experience easier, and to provide powerful tools that make the process faster for members. We so appreciate our partnership with the bar and hope members reap the benefits of our improved system,” said Phil Rosenthal, President of Fastcase.

Fastcase brings big data analytics, visualization, and work-flow tools to online legal research. These innovations allow attorneys to quickly identify the most important cases and reduce time wasted on repetitive tasks. In September 2020, Fastcase users will begin transitioning to the updated version of Fastcase. The newest version of Fastcase provides a greater variety of tools and results with improved speed, expanded search options, and more intuitive functionality. Learn more about the changes in the Fastcase interface below.

**Type Ahead:** Fastcase intuits the document you’re searching for before you finish typing the full name or citation. Just start typing and the system will suggest search terms and documents that match your keystrokes.
**Suggested search terms:** The new Fastcase features tools to help researchers focus and enhance their search results, including a semantic term cloud. Available in both list and cloud formats, this tool displays words and common legal phrases that appear frequently in your results.

**Interactive timeline:** A patented feature of Fastcase, the Interactive Timeline presents trends in the law based on how a case has been historically cited. This illuminates important results, such as the most seminal and relevant cases, at a glance.

We look forward to having you use these tools and more in the new Fastcase system. Happy Searching!
LEADERSHIP IN THE PROFESSION

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE: NAVIGATING YOUR CAREER AS THE LEGAL PROFESSION EVOLVES

As the legal profession evolves to adapt to shelter-in-place, social distancing and reduced spends, junior lawyers and associates can create enhanced roles and more meaningful work experiences. Hear from two leaders in the field – Kathi Vidal, Managing Partner (Silicon Valley Office), Winston & Strawn LLP, and Danielle Williams, Partner, Winston & Strawn LLP – on what you can do now to take advantage of new ways of connecting and litigating.

http://fedcirbar.org/Leadership-In-The-Profession

KATHI VIDAL
MANAGING PARTNER (SILICON VALLEY OFFICE), WINSTON & STRAWN LLP

DANIELLE WILLIAMS
PARTNER, WINSTON & STRAWN LLP

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OPEN THE DOORS TO MEMBERSHIP!

We invite you to consider membership in the Circuit community’s most prestigious regional, national, and international voluntary bar – the Federal Circuit Bar Association® (FCBA). FCBA serves as the premier portal for organizations, and individuals, seeking the highest in professional excellence. Membership opens the door to a plethora of benefits!

For more information on membership benefits and pricing, contact Vernon Love at love@fedcirbar.org.
JOIN THE LEADERS CIRCLE!

Federal Circuit Bar Association Leaders Circle sponsors benefit from and help guide the Association’s premier national outreach. Leaders Circle participants, both firms and corporations, stand among the most skilled in the profession. With their acumen, Leaders Circle sponsors engage core developments significant to the Federal Circuit justice community through over 20 committees (ranging from Amicus to Patent Litigation, International Trade, Government Contract, Patent and Trademark Office).

Leaders Circle sponsors “Make a Difference.” Moreover, while doing so, they provide unique interactive professional opportunities and recognition for the members of their organizations and for their designees.

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- **Annual Benefits Bundling** (Bench & Bar® Conference, Regional Programs, Summits, Annual Dinner, Webcast and New FCBA Memberships)
- **Premier Quality** (Substantive and policy engagement, planning, and participation opportunities (including, e.g., the annual Bench & Bar® Conference))
- **Publications**
  - Federal Circuit Bar Journal — Quarterly publication providing meaningful, insightful and timely coverage of issues within the court’s purview.
  - Circuit Court Case Digest — Monthly publication providing a summary of all precedential opinions of the Federal Circuit.
  - Reviewed Adjudicators Digest — Monthly review of matters in the administrative tribunals. Tribunals already include PTAB, COFC, CAVC, ITC, MSPB, and CBCA.
  - Pro Bono Digest — Monthly publication covering matters of interest in pro bono activities. This publication is a resource for members who participate in the Association’s pro bono programs.
  - Watch List — Weekly publication notifying members of the news items of interest happening in the Federal Circuit community.
  - Program Session Materials — Materials from past FCBA programs, providing you a thoughtful and detailed evaluation of substantive and practical issues.
  - Horizons Series Webcasts — Educational nuts & bolts advocacy and subject matter areas as well as important, timely decisions
  - Federal Circuit Bar Association Newsletter — Timely information including rules changes, personnel changes, hearing dates, and upcoming meetings and events of the Association.
- **Sessions**
  - Skills Excellence (broad spectrum of professional webcasts, telecasts, and sessions)
- **Session Planning Participation**
  - Fastcase Legal Research Support

To become a Leaders Circle Sponsor, contact Tori Wright at 202-536-4160 or wright@fedcirbar.org.
Federal Circuit Bar Association

The Federal Circuit Bar Association Charitable and Educational Fund
Expresses its Appreciation to the Following Organizations for their Generous Contributions
Due to COVID-19 concerns, our in-person events are either postponed, rescheduled, or in the process of being transitioned to virtual events. Please visit the FCBA website at www.fedcirbar.org for current information concerning our upcoming webcasts, virtual conferences, and rescheduled events.