



## FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION — DETROIT CHAPTER

704 U.S. COURTHOUSE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

DETROIT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER  
September, 1986



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with both excitement and trepidation that I undertake my year of service as President of the Detroit Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. It is exciting because we have a dynamic organization which is attempting to meet the needs of a broad cross-section of the government and private bar. It is personally daunting to think of myself in the company of that distinguished list of past presidents which adorns our letterhead. It is my intention to exercise the privilege of the Chair at our meetings during the coming year to acknowledge the presence of past presidents. In particular, I would like to thank my four predecessors, Richard A. Rossman, Sheldon S. Toll, Paul D. Borman and especially Robert P. Hurlbert, for preparing me for this year.

After the election is perhaps a somewhat strange time to reveal my program for the year to you. To the best of my recollection, our bylaws do not include a provision for recall of the President. My three membership objectives all have to do with encouraging more active participation by women, minorities and government lawyers.

The officers and executive board say jokingly that the Detroit Chapter has become the U.S. District Court Admiration Society. I want you to know that I am sensitive to this point and realize my presence in the Chair places me in a continuing position of potential conflict. For the last year or two I have been exercising extreme caution when talking with lawyers to advise them whether I am "wearing my District Court Executive hat" or "my Federal Bar Association hat". I am also aware that the extremely close ties between the Chapter and the District Court have also, perhaps along with the increased dues and the increasing costs of luncheon and dinner meetings, caused estrangement of many government lawyers whose work has little or no contact with the District Court. It might come as a surprise to many of our members to know that in most cities Federal Bar Association chapters consist almost exclusively of government lawyers. I believe it is one of the great strengths of our Chapter that we have such a broad cross-section of lawyers

including many who have never been government lawyers and many more who have left government law offices for private practice. But, I also believe we need to make membership and activities more attractive to government lawyers. For this reason, I will work with other Chapter presidents in opposing a proposed increase in the national FBA dues from \$48 to \$85.

The recruitment of women members will be an expanded concern of the Membership Committee. I am writing to the President of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan and the presidents of their regional chapters inviting their membership to join and participate more actively in the Federal Bar Association. It is hoped that our first speaker on October 23, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Victoria Toensing, will be of interest to a broad spectrum of lawyers including both our current membership and those who might be interested in membership.

Anthony Adams, Assistant to Mayor Coleman A. Young and a former Executive Board member of the Detroit Chapter, has accepted appointment as co-chair of the Membership Committee. Anthony and I have discussed, and Anthony will keep the Executive Board informed of, ways in which our organization can be more attractive and useful to minority lawyers.

Along with all of the foregoing, we hope to maintain, and even perhaps improve upon the high standards we have set in the past in the New Lawyers Seminar, Trial Advocacy Workshop and the substantive programs put on by our several sections (Bankruptcy, Civil Law, Criminal Law, EEO/Labor Law and Taxation).

John P. Mayer

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OFFICERS OF THE DETROIT CHAPTER

We wish to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Officers of the Detroit Chapter of the Federal Bar Association for the 1986-87 year:

President	John P. Mayer
President Elect	Michele Coleman Mayes
Vice President	John R. Runyan, Jr.
Secretary	Robert E. Forrest
Treasurer	Maura D. Corrigan

## PARTICIPATION SURVEY

The Detroit Chapter strives to increase active participation of its members. Please indicate those activities in which you would like to take part.

### Sections:

- ☐ Bankruptcy
- ☐ Civil Practice
- ☐ Criminal Practice
- ☐ International Trade/Export
- ☐ Labor/Employment Discrimination
- ☐ Taxation

### Committees:

- ☐ Dinner Dance
- ☐ Golf Outing
- ☐ Holiday Party
- ☐ Luncheon & Arrangements
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ National Convention
- ☐ New Lawyers Seminar
- ☐ Newsletter & Publication

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your completed survey to:

FBA - Participation Survey  
704 U.S. Courthouse  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

## CHAPTER LUNCHEONS TO HAVE INTERESTING GUEST SPEAKERS

Our first luncheon of the year will be held October 23, 1986. We are pleased to announce that Victoria Toensing, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, will be our guest speaker. Her topic will be: "International Terrorism: A Federal Prosecutor's View"

Our next luncheon will be November 19, 1986. The Honorable Pierce Lively, Chief Judge of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, has accepted our invitation to speak.

Mark your calendars now so you won't miss what should prove to be enjoyable luncheons.

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## IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP REMINDERS

First, a reminder to pay your Detroit Chapter dues for 1986-87. These nominal dues are very important to sustaining the wide variety and high quality of Detroit Chapter programs. Send in your dues today!

Second, we strongly urge all of you to encourage other members of your firm, particularly new associates, to join the FBA and the Detroit Chapter. The FBA will keep you abreast of federal legal developments and give you the opportunity to interact with members of the federal bench and bar. Membership materials are available at our luncheons and seminars, or by contacting our Membership Co-Chairpersons, Mark Brewer and Anthony Adams, at the telephone numbers below.

Finally, in order to be a member of the Detroit Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, you must remain a member of the national Federal Bar Association. Please make sure your annual dues to the National Association are current.

If you have any questions on membership, need forms, and so forth, please contact Membership Committee Chairpersons Mark Brewer at 956-3464 or Anthony Adams at 224-3420.

## BANKRUPTCY NEWS

The House of Representatives has approved H. R. 5316 concerning bankruptcy court judges and U.S. Trustees. Upon enactment by the Senate, the Bankruptcy Committee intends to give a presentation concerning new U.S. Trustees for Michigan and Ohio.

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## DETROIT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER NEWS

The next issue of the Detroit Chapter Newsletter will be October. Material for publication in that issue of the Detroit Chapter Newsletter should be sent prior to September 19th to:

Thea Marie Sankiewicz, Esq.  
Raymond, Rupp, Wienberg, Stone &  
Zuckerman, P.C.  
755 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 1900  
Troy, Michigan 48084

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9/24/86 - Federal Bar Association Annual Meeting,  
9/27/86 Washington, D.C.

10/23/86 Chapter Luncheon, Riverfront Ballroom,  
Renaissance Center, 11:30 a.m.  
Speaker: Victoria Toensing, Deputy Assistant  
Attorney General, Criminal Division

11/19/86 Chapter Luncheon  
Speaker: Honorable Pierce Lively, Chief Judge,  
Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals

12/4/86 - New Lawyers Seminar  
12/5/86

12/12/86 Holiday Reception, Detroit Club, 5 - 7 p.m.

5/8/87 Annual Dinner Dance, Lansdowne

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704 U.S. Courthouse  
Detroit, Michigan 48226



Mr. John P. Mayer  
U.S. District Court  
704 Federal Bldg.  
Detroit, MI 48226