

## PRESIDENT'S Message

### DEAR MEMBERS:

We begin August in Washington with a sense of anticipation about what is to come; for example, the Nationals are grinding out some pretty amazing wins, setting themselves up as post-season contenders. We have an election coming in the fall and of course, we have several noteworthy FCBA events coming down the pike as well. Thanks to those organizations who have volunteered to sponsor the New Commissioners' Reception on September 13; more sponsors are welcome, and sponsorship and individual ticket information is contained on [page 13](#) of this newsletter. Our Young Lawyers, and the Charity Auction Committee, are busy organizing for the Charity Auction on November 8; if you have prizes to donate or great leads towards amazing prize "experiences," I know the Charity Auction Committee would very much like to hear from you!

Since last month, the various committees and chapters that are so critical to the delivery of programming have been formed and are listed on [page 4](#) of this newsletter as well as on the FCBA website. The Executive Committee held its first meeting of the year and the FCBA Foundation, headed by **Karen Brinkmann**, also has begun its work for the coming year.

I wanted to highlight the efforts of a couple of our lesser known but important committees: the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the Membership and Marketing Committee and the Finance Committee. There's a short article in this newsletter describing the work of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and I am thankful to **David O'Connor** and **Mark Denbo** for their willingness to serve this year.

The Membership and Marketing Committee this year is co-chaired by **Jim Blitz**, **Davina Sashkin**, **Peter Corea** and **Ryan Wallach**. While the Association is so fortunate to have as many engaged members as it has, the FCBA inevitably is affected by the same forces that over time reshape the nature and numbers of organizations that participate in the communications policy process. While we have the wherewithal to continue to do what we do very well, we have set as both a short and a long term goal to retain existing members and to attract new ones. This year's Committee is studying options, including perhaps injecting a little competition or prize incentives for existing FCBA members to bring in new members. More on that later, perhaps, but I wanted to publicly acknowledge the work of this key team as the membership renewal and membership solicitation process continues this month and likely into the fall. If you see Jim, Davina, Pete or Ryan anywhere soon, please share with them any ideas you have to make our membership processes better, and maybe even a little more fun.

My final point on committees is to alert the membership that we have a new Committee, that is the Finance Committee, which is an adjunct to the Executive Committee of the FCBA. Our ability to track and forecast revenues and expenses has been enhanced over the last couple of years by increasing the level of detail in bookkeeping. With that greater detail available, it seems prudent to conduct periodic tracking and review of FCBA finances by a core group of members who can review any issues in greater depth, perceive emerging trends and generally manage beyond just setting a budget for a single year. While the FCBA's Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, along with the President, have assumed this role in the past, a formalized and expanded Finance Committee, that includes the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and two At-Large members appointed by the President, is now in place. The Finance Committee will be meeting throughout the year and reporting and providing insight to the Executive Committee. Many thanks to **Yaron Dori** for suggesting this addition to existing financial oversight and to Yaron and **Tom Power** for agreeing to assist as our At-Large members of the Finance Committee this year.



# FCBA

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS  
BAR ASSOCIATION

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1020 19th Street, N.W.  
Suite 325  
Washington, D.C. 20036-6101  
Phone: (202) 293-4000  
Fax: (202) 293-4317  
E-mail: [fcba@fcba.org](mailto:fcba@fcba.org)  
Website: <http://www.fcba.org>

### OFFICERS

Laura H. Phillips  
*President*

Joseph M. Di Scipio  
*President-Elect*

Robert E. Branson  
*Secretary*

Monica S. Desai  
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*Assistant Treasurer*

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Parul Desai  
Kyle D. Dixon  
Yaron Dori  
Erin L. Dozier  
Rosemary C. Harold  
Julie M. Kearney  
Melissa Newman  
Thomas C. Power  
Natalie G. Roisman  
Megan Anne Stull

### CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Robert Millar  
Michele K. Thomas

### DELEGATE TO THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Brooks E. Harlow

### YOUNG LAWYERS REPRESENTATIVE

Mark W. Brennan

### FCBA STAFF

Stanley D. Zenor ([stan@fcba.org](mailto:stan@fcba.org))  
*Executive Director*

Kerry K. Loughney ([kerry@fcba.org](mailto:kerry@fcba.org))  
*Director of Member Services*

Wendy Jo Parish ([wendy@fcba.org](mailto:wendy@fcba.org))  
*Administrative Assistant*

Beth Phillips ([beth@fcba.org](mailto:beth@fcba.org))  
*Bookkeeper*

Editor – Kerry Loughney

Photographer – Mark Van Bergh  
[www.markvanbergh.com](http://www.markvanbergh.com)

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