# Newsletter of the Federal Communications Bar Association fcba NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2025

# **Reception Celebrating the Confirmations of FCC Commissioner Trusty and NTIA Administrator Roth on September 25**

The FCBA is pleased to announce that it will hold a reception in honor of two recently confirmed leaders: FCC Commissioner Olivia Trusty and Assistant Secretary of Commerce & NTIA Administrator Arielle Roth, on **Thursday**, September 25 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Sponsorships of the event are available for \$1,000 and \$750, and include registrations to the reception. Sponsors will receive recognition at the event, in addition to being listed in the FCBA newsletter, in promotional emails, on the website, and on social media outlets. Individual tickets to the reception also may be purchased.







**Commissioner Trusty** 

Click here to SPONSOR the Fall Reception. If you're interested in becoming a Platinum Sponsor, please see page 11.

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# **36th Annual FCBA Charity Auction to be held** on October 30

The Young Lawyers Committee (YLC) of the FCBA and the FCBA Foundation are proud to host the 36th Annual Charity Auction on Thursday, October 30, 2025, from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. EDT at The Hamilton Live in downtown Washington, DC.

Over the past 35 years, this signature event has raised more than \$2 million for local charities. This year's beneficiaries include Pathways to **Housing DC** and the **FCBA Foundation**. The funds raised at the Charity Auction provide a meaningful opportunity to help advance the beneficiaries' missions and allow us to give back to our community.

# ABOUT PATHWAYS TO HOUSING DC

Founded in 2004 and guided by the belief that every person deserves the dignity of a place to call home, Pathways to Housing DC is on a mission to bring Home, Health & Hope to our unhoused neighbors. It is one of the largest

Housing First providers in the region, serving nearly 800 individuals annually, with over 93% remaining stably housed. Pathways' housing programs span all eight Wards in Washington, DC, with a growing presence in Montgomery County, MD. They lead the largest Homeless Services and Street Outreach initiative in DC, working to end and prevent homelessness for thousands of Washingtonians.

# **ABOUT THE FCBA FOUNDATION**

Participation in the Auction will also support the FCBA Foundation's annual scholarship program. Auction proceeds will be used to provide financial assistance and laptop computers to DC public high school students, helping them thrive in the next stage of their academic journeys. Each year, the Foundation reviews applications from local high school students of diverse backgrounds and selects scholarship recipients based on their financial

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# **Upcoming Key Events**

# **Emerging Issues** in Technology **Committee CLE** Seminar

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. ET

Topic: Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law

SEE PAGE 7

# **State and Local Committee CLE** Seminar

Date/Time: Thursday, September 18, 2:00 -4:00 p.m. ET

**Topic:** Earth, Wind, and Fire: Utility Disaster Response and Preparedness SEE PAGE 7

# **Texas Chapter Lunch** and Learn

Date/Time: Monday, September 22, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CT (12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ET)

**Topic:** Impact of Recent Fifth Circuit Decisions on FCC Authority and Appellate Litigation

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# **Space and Global** Communications **Committee Lunch** and Learn

Date/Time: Thursday, September 25, 12:15 -1:30 p.m. ET

**Location:** Cooley LLP, 1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004 (Enter from 12th and E

**Topic:** Meet the Senior Leadership of the FCC Space Bureau

► SEE PAGE 7

# **Professional** Responsibility / **Transactional CLE Seminar**

Date/Time: Monday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET **Topic:** Ethics Program

SEE PAGE 7

# **PRESIDENT'S** Message

Fall is my favorite season. It means Halloween, all things pumpkin, cool breezes through an open window (a special treat for a particular orange cat in my household), leaf peeping, layers, and, most importantly, the start of FCBA programming for the 2025-26 year. I realize we all have different fall traditions. For some, football and back-to-school are a big part of it, for example. But we can all share enthusiasm for the FCBA year ahead.



And we're off to a strong start. With thanks to our Emerging Issues in Technology ad hoc committee and California chapter, I have the pleasure on Sept. 10 of co-introducing the FCBA's first educational event of the year: a CLE seminar on the timely topic of 'Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law'.

This is just the first of a strong set of programming already in the works from the 185 FCBA members serving as committee and chapter co-chairs this year. The race is off too for clever event titles. Proof in point: on Sept. 18, there will be an excellent CLE on utility disaster response and preparedness titled "Earth, Wind and Fire". Well played, State and Local Practice Committee. Check out the FCBA's **event calendar** for info on this and other upcoming committee events.

I'm also excited about our biggest events of the season:

- Sept. 25: Reception Celebrating the Confirmations of FCC Commissioner Trusty and NTIA Administrator Roth @ the Mayflower Hotel from 6-8 pm. We look forward to celebrating the confirmations of two talented leaders.
- Oct. 30: The 36th Annual FCBA Charity Auction @ The Hamilton Live, hosted by the Young Lawyers Committee. This year's Charity Auction will benefit Pathways to Housing DC and the FCBA Foundation two excellent organizations that each make a difference in our community. Please register and bid!
- Dec. 3: The FCBA Annual Dinner, featuring FCC Chairman Brendan Carr. We'll be at the Marriott Marquis starting with our reception at 5:30 p.m.

When you take your first sip of pumpkin spice latte this season, I hope it will conjure up images of these and other great FCBA events. I look forward to seeing you all in the weeks ahead!

#### **Matt DelNero**

FCBA President 2025-2026



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Kathleen Kirby

# **CLE** Seminars

# Wednesday, September 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. ET Hollywood, Highways, and Generative Al Output: What's Next in Al Law

The FCBA Emerging Issues in Technology Committee, in association with the Beverly Hills Bar Association (BHBA), will sponsor a CLE on Wednesday, September 10, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. ET entitled Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law. This program will be held virtually via the Zoom platform.

# Click here to register.

This program has been approved for 1.50 CA CLE hours of General credit.

# Agenda

Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law will examine pressing issues on the horizon—who bears responsibility for harmful or inaccurate generative AI outputs, how laws may apply to

AI used in entertainment content, the evolving legal landscape for AI in autonomous vehicles, and the fastevolving AI regulatory environment.

# Speakers:

Mark MacCarthy, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution; Professor, Georgetown University; Author of Regulating Digital Platforms Jess Miers, Assistant Professor, University of Akron School of Law Eugene Volokh, Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution; Professor, UCLA School of

Moderator:

**Jonathan Cohen**, Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

# Thursday, September 18, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET Earth, Wind, and Fire: Utility Disaster Response and Preparedness

The FCBA State and Local Practice Committee will sponsor a CLE on Thursday, September 18, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. ET entitled Earth, Wind, and Fire: Utility Disaster Response and Preparedness.

The program will be held virtually via the Zoom platform.

As climate change has increased the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, public utility commissions across the country have made disaster preparedness and resiliency a top priority. And on top of their own network resiliency and emergency response preparations, the communications industry – which relies on access to utility infrastructure - has had to coordinate with electric utilities and other stakeholders to ensure that there is ample information sharing before and during significant weather events. Anticipatory power shutoffs by electric utilities have added another dimension to an already complex set of response plans.

Featuring expert panelists from state utility commissions across the country and practitioners from both the communications and electric industries, this CLE will examine the challenges faced in disaster preparedness and recovery and the steps state utility commissions and industry have taken to help keep customers informed and connected in the face of severe weather events.

# Click here to register.

Make sure to sign in to your account to receive the member rates!

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# **CLE** Seminars

#### SEPTEMBER 18 CLE

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

If you are registering on behalf of a member, please sign in using their credentials. By doing this, the information will be linked to their account.

If you have any registration issues, please contact **Elina Gross**.

FCBA will apply for 2.0 hours of MCLE credit from the VA Bar. This program has NOT yet been approved. Attorneys licensed outside Virginia may use the certificate and materials provided to apply for credit in their jurisdictions.

# Agenda

2:00 – 2:05 p.m. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

# 2:05 - 3:00 p.m.

# ADDRESSING RESILIENCY AT STATE UTILITY COMMISSIONS

State commissioners and staff will discuss the particular challenges commonly faced by their state and what their commission requires in terms of disaster preparedness. Topics will include recent real-life case studies, jurisdictional issues, the evolution of state regulations in the area, and the commission's role as a facilitator for cross-sector communications.

### Speakers:

Commissioner Eric Skrmetta, Louisiana Public Service Commissioner Commissioner Colin Yost, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission Additional speakers to be announced

# 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. INDUSTRY DISCUSSION OF RESILIENCY

This panel will explore current issues relevant to industry as it pertains to

disaster preparedness and recovery. Topics will include network hardening, the impact of public safety power shutoff events, electric-communications industry information sharing, consumer communications, and issues faced in getting networks back online during and after a weather event.

# Speakers:

Jessica Epley, Vice President of Government Affairs, Ziply Fiber Tim Lewis, Senior Manager, IT – TSO – Field Communication Services, NextEra Energy Additional speakers to be announced

# Monday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET Transactional Practice and Professional Responsibility Committees CLE

The FCBA **Transactional Practice and Professional Responsibility Committees** will co-sponsor a CLE on **Monday**, **October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET.** The program will be held virtually via the Zoom platform.

The casual observer might be forgiven if they think that the ethical demands placed on deal lawyers are not as weighty as the burdens borne by litigators and regulatory attorneys. After all, the latter group owe duties to and interact with tribunals (courts and agencies), which tends to heighten both ethical obligations and the risks of unethical conduct. But transactional lawyers are not "fixers" who are free to pursue their deals by any means possible, while letting the "buyer beware." Our panels will examine the frequently-encountered ethical guardrails for transactional attorneys, including conflicts of interest under Model Rules 1.7 and 1.8, competence and diligence in transactions under Model Rules 1.3 and 1.4, **negotiation ethics** including

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# **TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program**

The FCBA is grateful to the firms, companies, and associations who financially sponsor the TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program. If you are interested in sponsoring the Program for the 2025-2026 year, please do so by following these instructions:

- **SIGN IN to your account.** If you are sponsoring on behalf of a member, sign in using their credentials (username and password).
- Once in your profile, click **EVENTS** in the top menu bar. From there click **FCBA TMT Pipeline Program Sponsorship FY26**. Select the level and complete the transaction.

# TMT LAW & POLICY PIPELINE PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

- Order of the Coif (\$5,000)
- Summa (\$2,500)
- Magna (\$1,000)
- Cum Laude (\$500)

Sponsors will receive name recognition for their support in the FCBA newsletter, on the FCBA website, and via social media. In addition, the top two sponsorship tiers will receive logo recognition in the newsletter. This sponsorship is for July 1 through June 30. Note that sponsorship contributions to the FCBA's TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program are not tax deductible. If you wish to sponsor over at a level over \$5,000, please contact Elina at elina@fcba.org.

# **CLE** Seminars

#### OCTOBER 20 CLE

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duties of confidentiality and honesty in transactions under Model Rules 1.6 and 4.1, and avoiding assisting a client in fraudulent transactions (Model Rule 1.2). We will discuss recent legal developments and rule promulgations impacting transactional attorneys, the most common negotiation scenarios in which ethical challenges arises, and the most likely sources of bar complaints and malpractice claims in this area.

# Click here to register.

Make sure to sign in to your account to receive the member rates!

If you are registering on behalf of a member, please sign in using their credentials. By doing this, the information will be linked to their account.

If you have any registration issues, please contact **Elina Gross**.

FCBA will apply for 2.0 hours of Ethics MCLE credit from the VA Bar. This program has NOT yet been approved. Attorneys licensed outside Virginia may use the certificate and materials provided to apply for credit in their jurisdictions.

# Renew Today ~ Your Membership Will Expire on September 30!

The deadline for renewal is September 30, 2025. After this date, you will no longer receive the benefits of membership, including reduced pricing for events. Current FCBA memberships expired on June 30, 2025 and by renewing now, your membership will be good through June 30, 2025.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If your membership type has changed, please email elina@ fcba.org BEFORE paying your dues.

- **SIGN IN to your account.** If you are renewing on behalf of a member, use their credentials (username and password).
- Once in your profile, click **Renew Now** or **Renew Membership Now** in the Welcome Menu.
- Fields with \* asterisk are required. Make sure to check your contact information for accuracy. You must **Save Changes** in order to proceed.
- Follow the prompts and **submit your payment**. You will receive an email confirmation receipt.
- You can also **make a donation** to the FCBA Foundation when renewing. Click the Donations link in your main menu. Every dollar counts!

# PAYMENT PROCESSING OPTIONS

Bill Me or Credit Card

If you're mailing a check, you should select Bill Me. You MUST include the invoice with your check and mail to the address on the order.

<u>CLICK HERE for detailed instructions on how to renew, group renewals, FCBA</u> Foundation donations, and the FCLJ.

For any questions, please e-mail Elina Gross at elina@fcba.org.



#### **FALL RECEPTION**

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# <u>Click here to REGISTER AN INDIVIDUAL</u> <u>for the Fall Reception.</u>

Please contact Elina (elina@fcba.org) with any questions.

Arielle Roth was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information on July 30, 2025. In this role, she serves as Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the Executive Branch agency principally responsible for advising the President on communications, broadband, and internet policy.

Prior to joining NTIA, Roth spent nearly a decade shaping federal communications and broadband policy, holding senior roles on Capitol Hill and at the Federal Communications Commission. She most recently served as Policy Director for Telecommunications on the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation under Chairman Ted Cruz (R-TX), and previously as Legislative Counsel to former Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO).

At the FCC, Roth served as Wireline Legal Advisor to former Commissioner Michael O'Rielly and as Legal Advisor to the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Earlier in her career, she was a Legal Fellow with the Hudson Institute's Center for the Economics of the Internet.

Roth holds degrees from the University of Toronto and McGill University Faculty of Law. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Yaakov, and their six children.

**Olivia Trusty** was nominated to serve as a Commissioner of the FCC by President Donald J. Trump. She was confirmed by

the United States Senate in June 2025.

Prior to joining the Commission, Commissioner Trusty served as a Professional Staff Member on the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services under the leadership of U.S. Senator Roger F. Wicker. She previously served as a Policy Director on the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and a Legislative Assistant in the Office of U.S. Senator Roger F. Wicker. Before her tenure as a Senate aide. Commissioner Trusty served as a Professional Staff Member on the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce and a Legislative Assistant to U.S. Congressman Bob Latta. Commissioner Trusty began her career in the private sector.

Commissioner Trusty received her B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her M.A. from Georgetown University.

# The Auction Committee Would Like to Thank the Sponsors of This Year's Event!

(as of 9/5/25)

# **PLATINUM**

Covington & Burling LLP Somos, Inc. Wiley Rein LLP Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

#### GOLD

AT&T Services, Inc. Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP Mintz Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

#### SILVER

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP Hogan Lovells Lerman Senter PLLC

#### **CHARITY AUCTION**

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

need, academic achievements, and service to their schools and communities. This year, the FCBA Foundation provided <u>new laptops and \$295,000 in scholarships</u> to 22 DC high school students.

# CHARITY AUCTION SPONSORSHIPS

The Auction Committee is seeking sponsors! Contributions from our sponsors help cover the costs of the Charity Auction and make the event possible. Click here to learn more about the sponsorship tiers available.

# CHARITY AUCTION PRIZE DONATIONS

If you're interested in donating an item, please <u>click here to donate</u>, and be sure to submit a detailed description noting any applicable terms. **The deadline for prize submission is Wednesday, October 8, 2025**. Electronic donations should be emailed to Stephanie Budaker at **stephanie@fcba.org**. Physical prizes should be mailed to Stephanie Budaker, FCBA, 1020 19th Street, NW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20036. If the prize can't

be mailed via USPS, contact Stephanie Budaker to arrange for drop-off at the FCBA office. Contributions are tax deductible, to the extent permitted by law.

If you have any questions about the Charity Auction, please contact **Jaime McCoy** (jaime.mccoyl3@gmail.com) and **Stephanie Budaker** (stephanie@fcba.org).

# Join the FCBA and FCBA Foundation on Social Media!

The FCBA and the FCBA Foundation invites you to "Like" and "Follow" our pages today to be in the loop for upcoming events, share fun pictures of your FCBA friends and colleagues, and grow your social media network! Come join the conversation!

FCBA: LinkedIn and Instagram (@ fcba\_law)

FCBA Foundation: Foundation LinkedIn (FCBA Foundation)

# **COMMITTEE AND CHAPTER** Events

# **Charity Auction Committee**

**Event:** FCBA Charity Auction Pep Rally **Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 17, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. ET (Karaoke from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.)

**Location:** Tiki on 18th, 2411 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009

**Topic:** Kicking Off FCBA Charity Auction Season

Join the Auction Committee for a Pep Rally to kick off Charity Auction Season! We are thrilled to be raising funds for two inspiring beneficiaries, Pathways to Housing DC and the FCBA Foundation. Pep Rally attendees are encouraged to bring hygiene kit items to support Pathways to Housing DC (i.e., new deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, combs/brushes, shampoo, conditioner, and body soap). If you are unable to attend the Pep Rally but still wish to donate, please contact Auction Chair Jaime McCoy at jaime.mccoy13@gmail.com. We hope that FCBA members join us for an evening of philanthropy, cocktails, and karaoke! Click here to register.

# **Emerging Issues in Technology Committee**

**Event:** CLE Seminar co-sponsored by the Beverly Hills Bar Association

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 10, 4:30

- 6:00 p.m. ET **Location:** Virtual via the Zoom platform

**Topic:** Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law

**Cost:** There is no cost to attend this webinar. For more information: See page 3 Click here to register.

# **New England Chapter**

**Event:** New England Chapter and Boston College Law School Conference (In Person Only)

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, October 21, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. ET (Reception to follow)

**Location:** Boston College Law School, 885 Centre Street, Newton Centre, MA 02459

**Topic:** Current Communications Issues \*FCBA membership strongly recommended but not required to attend.

Join the FCBA's New England Chapter, in cooperation with Boston College Law School, to discuss federal impacts on broadband infrastructure and funding, the future of the Universal Service Fund, and technological and

marketplace developments in communications.

Click here to register.

# Professional Responsibility Committee

**Event:** CLE Seminar co-sponsored by the Transactional Practice Committee

**Date/Time:** Monday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Location:** Virtual via the Zoom platform **Topic:** Transactional Practice and Professional

Responsibility Committees CLE

**Cost:** \$135.00 for Private Sector Members; \$95.00 for Non-Profit 501c3 Members; \$50.00 for Government/Academic/Transitional/ Retired Members; No charge for Law Student Members; \$205.00 for Non-Members

For more information: See page 4 Click here to register.

# Space and Global Communications Committee

**Event:** Lunch and Learn (In Person Only) **Date/Time:** Thursday, September 25, 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. ET

**Location:** Cooley LLP, 1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004 (Enter from 12th and E Streets)

**Topic:** Meet the Senior Leadership of the FCC Space Bureau

**Speakers:** Jay Schwarz, Chief; Kerry Murray, Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief; Jennifer Gilsenan, Deputy Chief; Karl Kensinger, Special Counsel; Stephen Duall, Associate Chief; Jeanette Kennedy, Associate Chief; Stephanie Neville, Legal Advisor

Click here to register.

# **State and Local Committee**

**Event:** CLE Seminar

**Date/Time:** Thursday, September 18, 2:00 –

4:00 p.m. ET

**Location:** Virtual via the Zoom platform **Topic:** Earth, Wind, and Fire: Utility Disaster

Response and Preparedness

**Cost:** \$135.00 for Private Sector Members; \$95.00 for Non-Profit 501c3 Members; \$50.00 for Government/Academic/Transitional/ Retired Members; No charge for Law Student Members; \$205.00 for Non-Members

For more information: See page 3 Click here to register.

# **Texas Chapter**

**Event:** Lunch and Learn **Date/Time:** Monday, September 22, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CT (12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ET) **Location:** Virtual via the Zoom platform **Topic:** Impact of Recent Fifth Circuit Decisions on FCC Authority and Appellate

The Fifth Circuit vacated several major FCC orders in 2025 in decisions with potentially far-reaching implications. In this webinar, experienced FCC attorneys and appellate litigators will share their thoughts on how Fifth Circuit decisions like National Religious Broadcasters et al. v FCC and AT&T v. FCC may impact FCC rulemaking and enforcement authority (and challenges thereto), particularly in combination with recent Supreme Court

decisions in Loper Bright, Jarkesy, and McLaughlin Chiropractic Associates. **Speakers:** Jennifer B. Tatel, Partner, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP; Rakesh S. Patel, Partner, HWG LLP; Jared Kelson, Partner, Boyden Gray PLLC

**Moderator:** Jessica T. Nyman, Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP Click here to register.

# **Transactional Practice Committee**

**Event:** CLE Seminar co-sponsored by the Professional Responsibility Committee **Date/Time:** Monday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Location:** Virtual via the Zoom platform **Topic:** Transactional Practice and Professional

Responsibility Committees CLE

**Cost:** \$135.00 for Private Sector Members; \$95.00 for Non-Profit 501c3 Members; \$50.00 for Government/Academic/Transitional/ Retired Members; No charge for Law Student Members; \$205.00 for Non-Members

For more information: See page 4 Click here to register.

# **Young Lawyers Committee**

**Event:** FCBA Charity Auction Pep Rally **Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 17, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. ET (Karaoke from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.)

**Location:** Tiki on 18th, 2411 18th Street,

NW, Washington, DC 20009

**Topic:** Kicking Off FCBA Charity Auction Season

Join the Auction Committee for a Pep Rally to kick off Charity Auction Season! We are thrilled to be raising funds for two inspiring beneficiaries, Pathways to Housing DC and the FCBA Foundation. Pep Rally attendees are encouraged to bring hygiene kit items to support Pathways to Housing DC (i.e., new deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, combs/brushes, shampoo, conditioner, and body soap). If you are unable to attend the Pep Rally but still wish to donate, please contact Auction Chair Jaime McCoy at jaime.mccoy13@gmail.com. We hope that FCBA members join us for an evening of philanthropy, cocktails, and karaoke! Click here to register.

**Event:** FCBA/FCLJ Happy Hour **Date/Time:** Monday, September 22, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ET

**Location:** The Square Food Hall at International Square, 1850 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006

**Topic:** Meet and Greet with FCLJ Members Kick off your week with the FCBA and members of the Federal Communications Law Journal! Join us at The Square for cocktails and conversation. We encourage all FCBA members to attend, especially GW Law alumni! Click here to register.

# **COMMITTEE AND CHAPTER News**

# FCBA TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program Committee announces the launch of the 20252026 TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program ("TMT") on September 15

The TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program is a competitive program that prepares firstyear law students with varied backgrounds and perspectives for elite careers in TMT law and policy by (1) facilitating access to paid DC-based summer internships, (2) providing students with a comprehensive introduction to cutting-edge legal and policy developments in the TMT sector, and (3) connecting students to mentoring and networking opportunities throughout the summer. The TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program Committee encourages practitioners, law school faculty and administrators, and students to share the application for Year 6 of this groundbreaking program with 1L law students in their networks and spread the word!

The central purpose of Program is to create an evolving pipeline, opening doors for interested students and nurturing future leaders who will shape the future of the Tech Bar and the TMT space.

# YEAR 6 PROGRAM LAUNCH AND APPLICATION PERIOD

- Program Law School/Ambassador Kick-off Webinar was hosted on September 3, 2025.
- September 15, 2025 Student Application Window Opens
  - ➤ September 16, 2025 Student Information Session (1) Registration link here
  - ➤ September 18, 2025 Student Information Session (2) Registration link here
- October 20, 2025 Student Application Window Closes

We appreciate our returning Employers. And we welcome new Employer participation. If you are interested in returning as an employer or becoming a new employer, please reach out to us at **TMTpipeline@fcba.org**. More information on employer opportunities will also be available during the September 23, 2025, 5:00 PM ET, Year 6 Employer Information Session **Registration link** here.

To become a sponsor of the Program, please see page 4 for more information.

For any questions, please contact the TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Committee at TMTpipeline@fcba.org or the Committee leads: Anisa Green (al7161@att.com), Rudy Brioché (rudy\_brioche@comcast.com), and Svetlana Gans (sgans@gibsondunn.com).

# The FCLJ is Looking for Articles

The Federal Communications Law Journal (FCLJ), the official academic journal of the FCBA, is hosted by The George Washington University Law School. It has long been an important source of legal scholarship on communications issues, and the FCBA is proud to offer the journal as a benefit to our members.

The Federal Communications Law Journal (FCLJ) editorial board at The George Washington University Law School is seeking article submissions for potential publication in the upcoming issues of the FCLJ. Interested members may submit articles to the Senior Articles Editor, Spencer Banwart (fcljarticles@law.gwu.edu). Articles may also be submitted through ExpressO or Scholastica. For general inquiries about the FCLJ, please contact the Editor-in-Chief, Addison Spencer (fclj@law.gwu.edu).



# Get to Know an FCBA MEMBER

# **Greg Haledjian**

By: Laura Phillips

Greg Haledjian is currently a Legal Advisor to the Operations and Emergency Management Division of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau at the FCC. Greg is a second-career attorney who has worked on tech policy issues in Washington, DC since 1991. As he notes below, he was able to leverage securing a provision in the Telecom Act of 1996 to determining that becoming a lawyer made sense and then



into becoming a versatile, creative communications lawyer. Greg has a wide range of experiences, having represented clients in-house for a multi-billion-dollar company, worked at two local law firms, and advised university CIOs at a higher education IT association, all before joining the FCC in 2012. Since joining the FCC, Greg continues to enjoy variety; he is now serving in his fourth Bureau where he analyzes national security threats and authors FCC items that aim to protect critical infrastructure. Greg and I met up for a fun lunch and we ended up reminiscing a bit about the work we did quite a while ago for clients who were adverse in the 800 MHz reconfiguration process. It was a delight to spend some time with Greg.

# What attracted you to the field of communications?

My parents were a considerable influence in terms of me first seeing technology as a way to improve society and people's lives. When I was in first grade, my mom got a job working for IBM in Manassas that exposed me to a culture where technology was the root of their business. My dad was a Sociology professor at NoVA in Annandale, and he was a member of the World Future Society. Of course, the biggest impact regarding technology was my dad taking me to see the original Star Wars at the Uptown Theater in Cleveland Park. When I was ten, he and a colleague hosted The Future Fair on campus, which was very well received. The best part was an amateur version of R2-D2 that stole the show. In addition, my dad and some fellow teachers devised a course called Patterns of Problem Solving. In an interview my dad said, "In teaching this class I'll be taking examples from science fiction where the writer's imagination has found new solutions to old problems." This put me on a path towards the communications law and policy field where I help clients to solve their problems.

Tell us about the various places you've worked through the years.

A: With 34 years of working in Washington, DC, there have been a lot of places and jobs. After graduating from Syracuse University with a degree in Political Philosophy, my first job was working on a U.S. Senate race in the Midwest where I quickly learned that politics is a dead end when your candidate loses. Accordingly, I shifted to policy work by paying my dues as a Capitol Hill intern. My first private sector job was with The Mobile Electronics Association handling legislative and press affairs where future U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA) was the Chairman. I also worked for a Capitol Hill-based lobbying firm, The Keefe Company, where I represented the Alarm Industry Communications Committee in lobbying for the Telecom Act of 1992. Later, I moved to the American Public Communications Council (APCC) where, for six years, I coordinated legislative and regulatory affairs for the independent payphone industry. Once Section 276 became law as part of the Telecom Act of 1996 (Provision of Payphone Services), my boss suggested that I attend law school. So I did, as an evening student at Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. I started my legal career at Irwin, Campbell & Tannenwald because of Adjunct Professor David Irwin, and then shifted to IDT Corporation's DC office, working with Joe Sandri. Our notable outside

counsel/consultants were Phil Verveer, Jean Kiddo, Harold W. Furchtgott-Roth, John Windhausen, and Steve Perry. I also represented 800 MHz rebanding public safety clients while at Shulman Rogers law firm and then I managed telecom policy matters for EDUCAUSE before joining the FCC in 2012.

I started in the WCB's Pricing Policy Division and then pursued telecom investigations in EB before joining the CGB Front Office supporting the Deputy Chief leading outreach efforts and serving as the Deputy Designated Federal Officer for the Consumer Advisor Committee. After five years in CGG, Michael Connelly pulled me into the Operations and Emergency Management Division of PSHSB in April 2023. Since I have a security clearance, I started protecting critical infrastructure and supporting my colleagues who are deployed at major events and for disaster response. My latest major project was writing the Covered List sections of the recently adopted Submarine Cable Licensing R&O and Further Notice.

# Have things unfolded in your career more or less the way you planned?

Of course, the answer is "no" and "yes." Once I made the decision to work in the policy field while focusing on technology, I believed that I was doing reasonably well representing clients in a lobbying firm and in two industry associations. At that point in my career, I did not expect to go to law school. But after achieving the goal of legislation for APCC and effectively working myself out of the position I had at APCC, it made sense for me to go to law school - in the evening - so I could continue to work on securing favorable payphone regulations at the FCC. I often joke that I took eight "gap years" between undergrad and law school. I am exceedingly thankful that Professor Harvey Zuckman approved my application to join the Institute for Communications Law Studies. My specialization in studying communications law and my internships with FCC Commissioner Gloria Tristani

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# Get to Know an FCBA MEMBER

#### **GREG HALEDJIAN**

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and with Kathleen Wallman allowed me to leverage my prior legislative experience. I also benefited from Bryan Tramont's wisdom and mentorship which were instructive and valuable for a new lawyer.

# What's the most interesting or challenging thing that you've done in your current position?

Receiving my security clearance has opened new subject matter areas for me that I never expected to experience. We have a well-appointed Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility or SCIF that my division operates, and it has been an honor to collaborate with our Federal partners and to receive briefings that allow me to do a better job in projecting our critical infrastructure. In addition, I have attended policy meetings at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building within the White House compound, and it has been humbling to attend meetings amongst such incredible landmarks of American history.

# Is or was there something interesting or someone who surprised or impressed you during your career and why?

There are two individuals who stand out the most in terms of both their incredible effectiveness in getting things done in Washington, DC and their bountiful kindness. It was a joy to work with each of them early in my career. I encountered Terry O'Connell at the lobbying firm. He was a Vietnam-era war hero whose combat actions resulted in the award of the Distinguished Service Cross, three Purple Hearts, and the Bronze Star with "V" Device, Air Medal with "15" Device, Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Parachutist Badge. Despite suffering incredibly debilitating wounds during his military service, Terry was the most engaging person whom I ever met, and he always had a smile on his face.

And I learned a great deal from Al Kramer, who was such a strong advocate for the underdog independent payphone industry. I remember being in awe as I watched Al conduct 360-degree analysis of complicated legal and policy questions and provide brilliant answers to tough questions in a matter of seconds.

# Q: What do you enjoy reading?

My favorite topics to read about are found in music and sports. I am reading Bono's Surrender, which is very interesting as U2 was a mainstay in my younger years. I started following Liverpool Football Club (LFC) in 2013 when NBC took over airing the English Premier League matches. I follow a Liverpool-based analyst, Josh Williams, and I love his magnificent book titled, Data Game: The Story of Liverpool FC's Analytics Revolution. The club's American owners, Fenway Sports Group, have pioneered using data to evaluate both players and player performance. I am still buzzing a bit since LFC won their 20th league title in May. But the devastating loss of Diogo Jota and his brother quickly brought me back down to Earth.

# Is there something (a hobby or other tidbit) people don't know about you that you are willing to share?

I took great pleasure in announcing my son's high school soccer and lacrosse matches and my son and daughter's swim meets when they were younger. It

was exciting to be a significant part of the community in these roles. This was an unexpected but definitely a gratifying talent that I am slowly exploring. I am thinking in the future, I would love to narrate audio books and/or perform voiceovers.

# Can you share your perspective on the pitfalls to avoid or other career advice for those who are just getting started in the communications field?

A: Find balance between the functionality of your work and the subject areas that you focus on. I view the practice of law as three top-level functions: litigation, transactions, and policy. At the peak of your career, you will most likely be focused on practicing in just one of these functional areas and that is OK. My take is that clients are willing to pay for expertise, so the more experienced you are, the more options you may have. In terms of subject areas, try to pursue what most interests you so your curiosity and passion are rewarded. Finally, it pays to build your professional network with time and care, especially with FCBA members and on LinkedIn.

# How has your life changed as a result of COVID-19 and what are you looking forward to doing next?

At first, I was able to perfect my video binge-watching skills. The pandemic

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# Do one thing for your career today – join the FCBA Speakers Bureau!

A **key part** of building your personal brand is driving up your visibility within your industry and personal network. By joining the FCBA Speakers Bureau, you can raise your professional profile while sharing your insights and knowledge with your colleagues.



With the Speakers Bureau, the FCBA maintains a broad list of potential speakers at all stages of their careers. The FCBA will use the list to offer opportunities for speakers to contribute their knowledge to CLEs, brown bags, and other events.

Complete this easy **form** to join the FCBA Speakers Bureau today!

# Get to Know an FCBA MEMBER

#### **GREG HALEDJIAN**

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

also reminded me how much I love being in nature. I enjoy playing "old man" pickup soccer, hiking, hanging out at the beach, and attending outdoor concerts. Inspired by my girlfriend, I started playing golf a few years ago, which is a new obsession. In June, I played in the 29th Annual FCBA Foundation Robert Emmet Lee Memorial Golf Tournament and I had a blast despite Westfields being the most difficult course that I have played. Last year, I even convinced Lee Petro to play nine holes with me and a friend, but I rapidly determined that I wasn't quite ready for the big time. Obviously, my golf game is a work in progress!

How long have you been an FCBA member, and what to you is the value of FCBA membership?

A: I proudly joined the FCBA in 1998 during my first year of law school

and I immediately felt welcome. I also noticed how many CUA Law alumni were FCBA members, and it made networking that much easier. I served as a Co-Chair for the FCBA's Wireline Committee for 2013-2014, which was a fantastic experience. The FCBA offers so many wonderful opportunities to learn about new subjects, meet fellow practitioners, and give back to the community. I always look forward to the FCBA Annual Dinner, AKA the "Telecom Prom," since it is such an entertaining night (as the year is ending) to celebrate together the year that was and to look forward to the year to

come. Earlier in the day, the joint FCBA-PLI Institute on Telecommunications Policy & Regulation is a "can't miss" opportunity to further your communications law knowledge. I truly believe that ongoing FCBA membership and participation in events and programing provides a bedrock foundation for every happy communications lawyer.

Interested in learning more about another FCBA member? If there is a member you'd like to know better, contact Laura Phillips at laura@phillipscommlaw.com.

# **To Update Your Membership Contact Information**

To update your contact information, log in to your member account and click the About or My Profile sections. If you are changing your membership type/category (e.g. Private Sector to Government; Law Student to Private Sector, etc.), you must email Elina Gross (elina@fcba.org) so she can update it.

# **FCBA Offers Platinum Sponsorship Package**

The FCBA is pleased to offer its Platinum sponsorship package again! We know our sponsors — law firms, telecom, media, and tech companies, trade associations, and other generous organizations – are critical to the FCBA's success. During the next year, we'll be holding an exciting array of events. While your organization is free to sponsor one or more on an *a la carte* basis (as in the past), we are once again offering a package sponsorship opportunity.

The package sponsorship qualifies you as Platinum Sponsor for the following FCBA events to be held between September 2025 and June 2026:

- Reception Celebrating the Confirmations of FCC Commissioner Trusty and NTIA Administrator Roth -September 25, 2025;
- Seventh Annual Women's Summit spring 2026;
- Annual Seminar in Hershey, PA May 15-17, 2026;
- Spring/Summer Reception, featuring the Excellence in Government Service Award June 2026

Among other things, Platinum Sponsorship offers the following benefits:

- A discounted price as compared to cost of sponsoring each of the four events separately at a gold-equivalent level;
- Ability to pre-pay for sponsorships (e.g., to use calendar year 2025 funds for 2026);

 Recognition as a Platinum Sponsor in the FCBA newsletter each month from September 2025-June 2026, in addition to recognition as top-level sponsor at each package event.

Please note that the Annual Dinner and Annual Luncheon are not included in the package.

<u>Click here for detailed information on benefits and pricing (pdf).</u>

#### TO BECOME A PLATINUM SPONSOR:

- SIGN IN with your member credentials in order to link it to your account.
- Proceed to Events FCBA Platinum Sponsorship FY26

Organizations also are free (but certainly not obligated) to add discrete sponsorships to individual sessions at the Annual Seminar (e.g., of hospitality breaks) separate and apart from their Platinum Sponsorship.

We are grateful to our supporters at each and every sponsorship level. I you will find this streamlined package/discount suits your organization's needs.

Please contact Elina at elina@fcba.org with any questions.

# Save the Dates for the 2025 Annual Dinner, the 2025 Charity Auction, and the 2026 Annual Seminar!

We are excited to announce that we will be holding the **FCBA Annual Dinner featuring FCC Chairman Brendan Carr** on **Wednesday**, **December 3**, **2025**. It will be held at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, DC. Please keep an eye out in the fall for further details. We currently do not have any information on purchasing tables and/or tickets, or issuing invitations.

Also, mark your calendar for the **36th Annual FCBA/FCBA Foundation Charity Auction** that will be held on **Thursday**, **October 30**, **2025**, at the Hamilton Live, 600 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC.

And last, but certainly not least, we're excited to announce that we'll be holding the **FCBA Annual Seminar at The Hotel Hershey on May 15-17, 2026!** We had such a fabulous time at the sweetest place on earth, we've decided to return!



# **Annual Wireless Hall of Fame Awards Dinner**

The annual Wireless Hall of Fame awards dinner will be held on September 29 at the Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City. Longtime FCBA member **Liz Sachs** from Lukas, LaFuria, Lantor & Sachs will be inducted into the Wireless Hall of Fame.

The evening includes inducting the following individuals into the Wireless Hall of Fame for their career achievements:

- *Ken Horowitz* Co-founder of Cellular One and Air Waves Wireless Electricity, a pioneer in paging and wireless services
- *Neville Ray* Former President of Technology at T-Mobile, guided implementation of T-Mobile's Fixed Wireless Access
- *Jesse Russell* Former engineer at AT&T Bell Labs, invented the digital cellular base station and the fiber optic microcell
- *Liz Sachs* Telecom attorney that helped expand land mobile spectrum allocations and shaped wireless communications policy
- *Tom Stroup* Mobile pioneer and industry advocate, current President of the Satellite Industry Association

This annual reception and dinner honors individuals and groups for their work and accomplishments in all sectors of the wireless industry. Many of the founders of wireless attend and sponsors from *all sectors* of wireless industry will be there as well, including guests from the FCC, NTIA and the Hill.

Click here for the Wireless Hall of Fame Event Details.



# **JOB** Bank

### TO LIST A JOB

Submit a Job Bank Form (found by **clicking here** or going to the FCBA website under the Member Resources - Job Board) and email the form, the text of the ad, and the appropriate payment to Kerry Loughney at **kerry@fcba.org**. Listings and payment received by the 25th day of each month will appear in the next month's newsletter. If possible, ads should not exceed 400 words. No headhunters please.

#### 9.25.1

**Regulatory Counsel** – Deutsche Telekom (Washington DC office) is looking for a candidate with 2-4 years of knowledge and experience in national security and antitrust matters to join a small team as its regulatory counsel. Ability to think strategically preferred. Strong benefits package. Contact: **reinhard.** wieck@telekom.com or text 202.725.3339.

#### 9.25.2

Senior Consultant, Regulatory Affairs – JSI is a leading full-service consulting firm specializing in broadband solutions. For over 60 years, we have provided communications service providers with expert financial, engineering, management, operational, regulatory, and strategic guidance. Our extensive industry knowledge and proven track record of success have empowered clients to achieve sustainable growth and profitability.

# **Position Overview:**

As a **Consultant**, **Regulatory Affairs**, you'll be instrumental in shaping our clients' success and contributing directly to our company's expansion. You'll leverage your expertise in regulatory affairs to solve complex challenges, mitigate risk, and help clients navigate the intricate world of state and federal regulations while positioning them for future growth. If you thrive on building, growing, and making a tangible impact, join us and help us grow together.

# Responsibilities:

- Client and Project Leadership: Serve as the primary client contact, building and maintaining strong, long-term relationships for numerous client accounts. Lead the planning, coordination, and execution of client projects from conception to successful completion. Provide subject matter expertise and coordinate the efforts of internal team members on assigned accounts. Proactively identify client needs and objectives, developing tailored strategies to achieve positive outcomes.
- Strategic Regulatory Consulting and Analysis: Provide expert guidance and timely advice on state and federal compliance within the telecommunications industry. Conduct in-depth research and analysis to solve intricate regulatory challenges, including navigating FCC and state Public Service Commission rules. You

- will help clients mitigate risk and ensure they have the regulatory landscape needed to innovate.
- Business Development: Drive business development initiatives by identifying opportunities to expand our service offerings and reach new clients. Stay current on industry trends and regulatory changes to provide forward-thinking solutions and insights. Potential to represent the firm at trade shows, workshops, webinars, and other industry events to promote our services and expand our network.

#### **Required Qualifications:**

- 7-15 years of industry experience managing regulatory and compliance requirements for with expertise in FCC filings (Forms 477, 499, 481), USF contributions and audits, ETC designations and compliance, Section 214 authorizations, outage reporting, CPNI compliance, and all relevant state PUC filings including registrations, tariff and pricing filings, annual reports, and compliance certifications for CLECs, VoIP providers and MVNOs.
- A Bachelor's Degree is required.
- Exceptional attention to detail, coupled with outstanding client service skills and the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Impeccable organizational skills to manage and prioritize multiple tasks simultaneously in a fast-paced, high-volume work environment.

- A demonstrated ability to manage projects and tasks independently while thriving in a highly collaborative team setting.
- Ability to manage projects and project teams on time and on budget.
- The ability to easily navigate diverse teams and cultures, fostering a positive and inclusive work environment.
- A demonstrated ability in supervisory and leadership skills.
- Proficiency in essential software applications, including Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Teams, Excel, Word, and PowerPoint), SmartSheets, and Adobe Acrobat.
- A strong growth mindset, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a commitment to continuous.
- This position will require limited travel.

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

- Experience in telecommunications industry, public utility commissions or telecommunications consulting firm.
- Knowledge of Telecom taxation.
- Experience in a billable, consultative environment.

# **Benefits and Compensation:**

- Competitive salary + performance-based bonuses.
- Comprehensive benefits package (medical, dental, vision, 401(k)).
- Generous PTO and travel support.
- Ongoing professional development and educational opportunities.

To apply, send your resume to leo.faneuf@jsitel.com.

# **Volunteer at the 36th Annual Charity Auction**

The Auction Committee is seeking volunteers for the **36th Annual FCBA Charity Auction**, taking place the evening of **Thursday**, **October 30**, **2025**!

Each year, the success of the Charity Auction depends on the support of volunteers—both law students and practitioners. There are plenty of ways to get involved: **Before the auction** by helping to solicit prize donations and collect auction items; and **On the night of the event** by assisting with check-in, setup, cleanup, and more. Volunteers are **not** expected to work the entire evening—you'll still have plenty of time to enjoy the festivities and connect with fellow FCBA members at this signature event.

To sign up as a volunteer or ask any questions about getting involved, please reach out to **Anthony Patrone** and **Kim Alli** at **FCBAAuction@gmail.com**.

We'd love to have you on board!

# FCBA Extends a Warm Welcome to Its Newest Members!

(as of 8/31/25)

Paul Beaudry, Cogeco Inc.
Ash Bharatkumar, MIT
Paige Dean
Iola Ilori

Parker Lightfoot, US Department of

the Treasury **Jenny Xin**, Luan

Sarah McKenna Joel Nolette, Wiley Rein LLP Victoria Randazzo, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

**Michelle Schaefer**, Federal Communications Commission

Jessica Sneesby

And huge thanks to those who recruited them: Stacey Culbreath, Jamile Kadre, Radhika Karmarkar, Kathy Kirby

Calendar	
September 10	CLE Seminar: Hollywood, Highways, and Generative AI Output: What's Next in AI Law
September 17	FCBA Charity Auction Pep Rally
September 18	CLE Seminar: Earth, Wind, and Fire: Utility Disaster Response and Preparedness
September 22	Texas Chapter Lunch and Learn: Impact of Recent Fifth Circuit Decision on FCC Authority and Appellate Litigation
September 22	FCBA/FCLJ Happy Hour: Meet and Greet with FCLJ Members
September 25	Space and Global Communications Committee Lunch and Learn
September 25	FCBA Reception Celebrating the Confirmations of FCC Commissioner Trusty and NTIA Administrator Roth
October 20	CLE Seminar: Professional Responsibility and Transactional Practice Committees
October 21	New England Chapter Boston College Law School Conference Current Communications Issues Conference
October 30	FCBA/FCBA Foundation Annual Charity Auction at the Hamilton Live
December 3	FCBA Annual Dinner featuring FCC Chairman Brendan Carr
May 15-17, 2026	FCBA Annual Seminar at The Hotel Hershey in Hershey, PA

# The Federal Communications Law Journal

The Federal Communications Law Journal (FCLJ) has long been an important source of legal scholarship on communications issues, and the FCBA is proud to offer the journal as a benefit to our members.

FCBA members may now decide how they would like to receive the journal. The *FCLJ* itself will continue to be published in hard copy, however, rather than receiving hard copies as a default, we'll be distributing electronic links to the content.

For those of you who would like to receive the *FCLJ* electronically, you don't have to do anything. We'll email you when a new issue is published. You may also visit <a href="http://www.fclj.org/volumes/">http://www.fclj.org/volumes/</a> to view archived volumes.

For those of you who would like to receive the FCLJ in hard copy format, you should sign up for this option by following the instructions below. The hard copy journal is free, but it must be ordered through our website.

- Log in to your account by **clicking here**.
- Once logged in, click on "My Profile" and then "My Account" buttons on the top left menu bar.
- Scroll down to the Additional Information section. Select Yes in response to the FCLJ Subscription - Hard Copy Format question.
- Click on "Save Changes", and you're done!

If you have any questions, please email Kerry Loughney (kerry@fcba.org).