

fcba NEWS

OCTOBER 2025

36th Annual FCBA Charity Auction on October 30

The Young Lawyers Committee of the Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA) and the FCBA Foundation are proud to host the **36th Annual Charity Auction** on **Thursday, October 30 from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m. EDT** at **The Hamilton Live** in downtown Washington, DC. This year's event will feature two legendary celebrity emcees: FCBA President **Matt DelNero** and **Adam Copeland**, Partner at Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP. The evening's auctioneer, **Max Wolf**, will make his return to help us raise funds for two amazing local non-profit organizations – **Pathways to Housing DC** and the **FCBA Foundation**.

Pre-registration is now **LIVE!** Visit the **Auction Website** to create your account for bidding in the online auction through the Greater Giving platform. An account is also required to attend the in-person event. The **online auction opens**



on **Tuesday, October 28**, at 12:00 p.m. EDT. Thanks to our generous donors, we have a wide variety of exciting prizes, including gift cards to restaurants around the DMV, tickets to local sporting events, travel getaways, and more!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5 ►

37th Annual FCBA Dinner on December 3

The 37th FCBA Annual Dinner will be held **Wednesday, December 3** at the **Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Avenue, NW**. The evening will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the Marquis Ballroom.

This is a special evening when virtually the entire FCBA membership comes together to celebrate what makes this bar association so special. Part of that is philanthropy. Every table sold includes a \$150 tax-deductible donation to the FCBA Foundation—a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides college scholarships to area high school students, as well as scholarships and stipends to law school students. The dinner also plays an important role in the FCBA's own financial health.

FCC Chairman Brendan Carr will deliver the evening's featured remarks. We're grateful to him and his fellow **Commissioners, Anna Gomez and Olivia Trusty**, as well as **NTIA Administrator Arielle Roth**, for joining us for the Annual Dinner. We hope to see you all there too!

[Click here to purchase a table or an individual ticket.](#) Please get your forms in by **November 7!**

INVITING GOVERNMENT GUESTS

Pursuant to the Office of Government Ethics regulation on widely attended gatherings (5 CFR 2635.204(g)(2)), the FCBA Annual Dinner appears to qualify as a widely attended

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 ►

Upcoming Key Events

Transactional Practice and Professional Responsibility Committees CLE Seminar

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

Topic: Everyday Ethics Issues in Transactional Practice

► SEE PAGE 3

New England Chapter Event

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 Conference

► SEE PAGE 5

International Telecommunications Committee CLE Seminar

Date/Time: Monday, November 10, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET

Topic: Supplementing Terrestrial Coverage from Space: One Year Later, Evolving Views from Administrations and the Industry. Where are We Now and What to Expect in the Future?

► SEE PAGE 3

Wellness Committee Strength Training

Date/Time: Thursday, November 13, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. ET

Location: Balance Gym Foggy Bottom, 2401 M Street NW, Washington, DC 20037

Topic: Strength Training 101

► SEE PAGE 5

PRESIDENT'S Message

The FCBA fall season is in full swing. We had a strong September, including multiple committee and chapter CLEs, lunch-and-learns, and our first 'tentpole' event of the 2025-26 year: a reception celebrating the confirmations of FCC Commissioner Olivia Trusty and NTIA Administrator Arielle Roth. The energy in the room for the reception was great, and many members commented on how happy they were to get together in person.



The momentum is continuing into October. See our [events page](#) for a full list. On Oct. 21, our fabulous New England chapter holds its annual conference in collaboration with Boston College Law School. As a native of southeastern New England, I'm wicked excited to attend in person.

On Oct. 30, we have the 36th Annual FCBA Charity Auction – made possible by the tireless efforts of our YLC co-chairs Jaime McCoy and Cassie Vangellow, and the Charity Auction Committee. The Auction will run from 6:30-10 p.m. at the Hamilton Live. Please attend, bid, and generously support this year's beneficiaries: our very own FCBA Foundation and Pathways to Housing DC. I'm grateful to my friend and former colleague, Adam Copeland, for agreeing to co-MC the evening with me. Since the Auction will take place one day before Halloween, Adam and I will be sure to bring some ghoulish delight to the evening.

You can also find information inside on purchasing tables for our biggest event of the year: The 37th FCBA Annual Dinner. This is a special evening when virtually the entire membership comes together to celebrate what makes this bar association so special. Part of that is philanthropy. Every table sold raises funds for the FCBA Foundation and the scholarships it awards to college-bound high school students and law students. Revenue from the dinner also plays an important role in the FCBA's own financial health.

FCC Chairman Brendan Carr will deliver the evening's featured remarks. We're grateful to him and his fellow Commissioners, Anna Gomez and Olivia Trusty, as well as NTIA Administrator Arielle Roth, for joining us for the Annual Dinner. I hope to see you all there too!

As always, thank you, FCBA.

Matt DelNero
FCBA President 2025-2026



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Kathleen Kirby

Monday, October 20, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET Everyday Ethics Issues in Transactional Practice

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

[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.

Agenda

1:00 – 1:05 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1:05 – 2:00 p.m.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, COMPETENCE, AND DILIGENCE

Our first hour will focus on three critical professional responsibility topics that every legal professional must understand: conflicts of interest, competence, and diligence. We will situate these essential issues in transactional practice. Our speakers will explore the various types of conflicts of interest that can arise in transactional practice and provide practical tips to manage them. This first

session will also address the lawyer's duty of competence, highlighting the issues of preparation, supervising attorneys and paralegals, and when it's time to bring in a specialist to address certain legal issues. Finally, the discussion will cover the principle of diligence, addressing the expectations of zealous advocacy, timeliness, and workload management while maintaining communication with clients about their matters. Through practical examples, our speakers will offer insights into how these principles of professional responsibility apply in daily practice.

Conflicts in Transactions

- Direct adversity
- Waivable conflicts/informed consent to conflicts

Competence in Transactions

- Preparation
- Attorney supervision
- When to bring in specialists or other counsel
- What about artificial intelligence – what are our duties with AI

Diligence and Communications in Transactions

- Zealous advocacy
- Workload management
- Responsiveness/timeliness

Speakers:

Elizabeth Fisher, Co-Chair of FCBA Professional Responsibility Committee
Tom Gilbertsen, Co-Chair of FCBA Professional Responsibility Committee
Brian Grindall, Partner, Tenenbaum & Saas, P.C., Adjunct Faculty, George Mason University, Adjunct Faculty, Georgetown University

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

CONFIDENTIALITY, FAIRNESS AND HONESTY, AND CANDOR TO THE TRIBUNAL/AGENCY

In our second hour, our speakers will focus on three other essential professional responsibility topics for transactional lawyers: confidentiality, fairness and honesty, and candor to the tribunal/agency. The speakers will address the ethical duty to maintain client confidentiality and associated obligations, particularly in the

complex business transaction environment that may involve the exchange of highly confidential information. Speakers will also explore the obligations and boundaries of fairness and honesty in dealing with adverse counsel while also living up to zealous advocacy obligations. Finally, this session will cover the duty of candor to the tribunal or agency, including the obligation to be truthful and transparent. Again, using real-world examples, speakers will offer attendees practical strategies to navigate these ethical considerations in their everyday practice.

Confidentiality in Transactions

- Maintaining client confidentiality
- Navigating transaction disclosures and data sites

Fairness and Honesty in Transactions

- Honesty and disclosure in dealing with opposing counsel and others
- Interplay with Rule 1.3 (zealous advocacy)

Candor to the Tribunal in Transactions

- Candor toward the agency
- FCC rules of candor and requiring disclosure and supplementation

Speakers:

Julia Ambrose, Partner, Brooks Pierce
Christopher Bjornson, Of Counsel, Steptoe LLP

Additional speakers to be announced.

Monday, November 10, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET Supplementing Terrestrial Coverage from Space: One Year Later, Evolving Views from Administrations and the Industry

The FCBA **International Telecommunications Committee** will sponsor

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

NOVEMBER 10 CLE

▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

a CLE on **Monday, November 10, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET** entitled **Supplementing Terrestrial Coverage from Space: One Year Later, Evolving Views from Administrations and the Industry**. The program will be held virtually via the Zoom platform.

[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 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

10:00 – 10:05 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jodi Goldberg, Partner,
Communications, Pillsbury Winthrop
Shaw Pittman LLP

10:05 – 11:05 a.m.

VIEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATIONS ON SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE FROM SPACE

The panel will feature international regulators, who will share insights into their respective countries' legal frameworks on D2D/SCS services.

Topics will include the status of domestic regulations and current or anticipated roadblocks.

Moderator:

Pascale Dumit, Director, International Spectrum Policy, T-Mobile

Speakers:

Tania Villa, ATDT, Mexico
TBD, OFCOM, UK
TBD, ISED, Canada
TBD, ICASA, South Africa

11:05 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

VIEWS FROM THE INDUSTRY ON SUPPLEMENTAL COVERAGE FROM SPACE

The panel will feature industry representatives, who will share perspectives on their respective approaches to D2D/SCS services. Topics will include regulatory frameworks, the status of ongoing or planned deployments, and any current or anticipated regulatory challenges.

Moderator:

Etzel Salinas, Senior Associate, Global Regulatory, Hogan Lovells

Speakers:

Jennifer Manner, AST SpaceMobile
Amy Mehlman, Lynk
Additional speakers to be announced.

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](#) (@fcbalaw)

FCBA Foundation: [Foundation LinkedIn](#) (FCBA Foundation)

Thank you to Covington & Burling LLP for Sponsoring the 36th Annual Charity Auction at the Platinum Level!

They will make a huge difference to this year's beneficiaries – [Pathways to Housing DC](#) and the [FCBA Foundation](#). We greatly appreciate their support!


Pathways
to Housing DC


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COMMITTEE AND CHAPTER *Events*

International Telecommunications Committee

Event: CLE Seminar

Date/Time: Monday, November 10,
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET

Location: Virtual via the Zoom platform

Topic: Supplementing Terrestrial Coverage
from Space: Views from Administrations and
the Industry. Where are We Now and What to
Expect in the Future?

Cost: \$150.00 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.](#)

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.

For more information: See [page 6](#)

[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: Everyday Ethics Issues in Transactional
Practice

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.](#)

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: Everyday Ethics Issues in Transactional
Practice

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.](#)

Wellness Committee

Event: Strength Training – In Person

Date/Time: Thursday, November 13, 6:30 –
7:45 p.m. ET

Location: Balance Gym Foggy Bottom, 2401
M Street NW, Washington, DC 20037. Balance
Gym is in the Fairmont Hotel. Enter through
the doors to the right and walk downstairs to
find the gym.

Topic: Strength Training 101

The Wellness Committee invites you to a
basics of weightlifting and strength training
class! The session will begin with an overview
of strength training and the basics of healthy
form and alignment, followed by a 30-minute
workout session. Come wearing comfortable
clothes and sneakers, and bring a water bottle.
Locker rooms available. Space is limited to 25
participants.

Speakers: Class will be led by Brandon
Padgett, CrossFit Level 2 Trainer, FCC Attorney

[Click here to register.](#)

CHARITY AUCTION

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Interested in donating an auction item?

The deadline has been extended to
Tuesday, October 14! [Click here to donate](#)
and be sure to note any applicable terms.
Electronic donations can be emailed to
Stephanie Budaker at stephanie@fcba.org.
Physical prizes must be mailed or dropped
off at the FCBA office, Attn: Stephanie
Budaker, FCBA Foundation 1020 19th
Street, NW, Suite 325, Washington, DC
20036. Contributions are tax-deductible
to the extent permitted by law.

For inquiries about **sponsorship
opportunities** or any other questions,
please contact **Jaime McCoy** at jaime.mccoy13@gmail.com or **Stephanie
Budaker** at stephanie@fcba.org.

If you'd like to volunteer at the Charity
Auction, please send an email to
FCBAuction@gmail.com.

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

**as of 10/7/25*

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Hogan Lovells
Lerman Senter PLLC
Wilson Sonsini

Year 6 of FCBA TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program ~ Accepting Student Applications through October 20th

The TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program officially launched its 2025-2026 program on September 15th and encourages all first-year students interested in TMT law and policy to apply by October 20th.

Over one hundred students attended the program's recent informational sessions and dozens of students have already created profiles in the applications portal. We ask the entire FCBA community to actively share this opportunity with first-year law students in their networks. By doing so, you will ensure the next generation of talented leaders in technology, media, and telecommunications (TMT) law and policy gain access to this transformative program.

The Pipeline Program is highly competitive and designed to prepare first-year law students by:

- Facilitating access to paid, Washington, D.C.-based summer internships,
- Introducing students to cutting-edge TMT legal and policy issues, and
- Providing mentoring and professional networking opportunities throughout the summer.

Since its inception, the impact of the Pipeline Program has been substantial. Nearly **500 students** have applied, resulting in over **125 placements** at leading law firms, corporations, trade associations, and nonprofit organizations. Additionally, approximately **165 students** have completed the rigorous TMT Law & Policy Certificate Program, gaining valuable insight into critical issues such as broadband regulation, artificial intelligence, antitrust, and content regulation.

Help us continue this momentum. Please share the application information today and encourage promising 1L students to apply for the 2026 TMT Law & Policy Pipeline Program.

STUDENT APPLICATION PERIOD AND DETAILS

The application period is currently open and will close at 11:59pm ET on Monday, October 20th. To apply, students should visit [The Student Application Portal](#) or access more information on the Program's [website](#). For detailed information about application requirements, timeline, and criteria, please refer to the [2025-2026 Student Application Information Packet](#).

EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The window for employer participation in the Internship Program is open until Wednesday, November 15. More information is available in the [2025-2026 Employer Information Packet](#). Sponsorship opportunities are also open. To become a sponsor of the Program, please see [page 19](#).

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS – STUDENT APPLICATION REVIEW

We need reviewers of student applications once the period closes on October 20, 2025. If you have a couple of hours to spare between October 20 – 27, please contact Anisa Green (al7161@att.com) indicating that you are able to volunteer as a reviewer. We will be reaching out to past reviewers for their assistance as well. If you are a past reviewer and can help again, please let us know.

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our 2024-2025 anchor employers and to our sponsors who have financially contributed to the Program for the 2025-2026 year.

To become a sponsor of the Program, please see [page 19](#).

For any questions, please contact the Pipeline Program Committee at tmtpipeline@fcba.org or the Committee leads: Anisa Green

(al7161@att.com), Rudy Brioché (rudu_brioché@comcast.com), and Svetlana Gans (sgans@gibsondunn.com).

FCBA New England Chapter/Boston College Law School: Current Issues Conference Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Please join **Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA - The Tech Bar)** on Oct. 21 for our upcoming Current Issues Conference co-hosted with **Boston College Law School**. The program will be held at 885 Centre St. East Wing Room 115A, Newton Centre, MA 02459. We will discuss federal impacts on broadband infrastructure and funding, the future of the Universal Service Fund, and technological and marketplace developments in communications.

The event is free, but registration is required. [Click here to register.](#)

Agenda

2PM: WELCOME REMARKS

- **Daniel Lyons** (Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Boston College Law School)
- **Matt DelNero** (Partner, Covington & Burling LLP & FCBA President)
- **Sandy Tarrant** (Associate Clinical Professor and Director, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Clinic/Faculty Director, Program on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE) at Boston College Law School)

2:30: PANEL I (REGULATORY & POLICY)

- **Michael Baldino** (Director and General Counsel, MA Broadband Institute)
- **Daniel Lyons** (Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Boston College Law School)

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COMMITTEE AND CHAPTER *News*

CURRENT ISSUES CONFERENCE

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

- **Staci Pies** (Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy, INCOMPAS)
- **Commissioner Karen Charles** (MA Department of Telecommunications & Cable) – moderator

3:45: PANEL II (BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY)

- **William Fanning** (Managing Director - Digital Infrastructure, Houlihan Lokey)

- **Santiago “Santi” Garces** (Chief Innovation Officer, City of Boston)
- **Sepehr Mehrabanzad** (Co-Founder and Chief Development Officer, Federated Wireless)
- **Jill Sandford** (Vice President & General Counsel, FirstLight Fiber) – moderator

5:00: RECEPTION

(sponsored by Day Pitney LLP, Granite Telecommunications, NECTA-Connecting New England and Verrill Dana LLP)

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 FCBAuction@gmail.com.

We’d love to have you on board!

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SAVE THE DATE! 43rd Annual Institute on Telecommunications Policy & Regulation

Presented by Practising Law Institute in cooperation with the Federal Communications Bar Association, join a faculty of top practitioners, in-house counsel from telecommunications organizations, and senior officials from the FCC **in-person** or via **live webcast** at the **43rd Annual Institute on Telecommunications Policy & Regulation** on **December 3** at the Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, D.C. This premier conference will provide attendees with in-depth understanding of current issues facing the telecommunications industry today while looking ahead at what is in store for 2026. Watch for schedule and faculty updates in the coming days at <https://www.pli.edu/programs/telecommunications-policy-regulation/415136> and in the next FCBA newsletter!

Thank you to Wiley Rein LLP for Sponsoring the 36th Annual Charity Auction at the Platinum Level!

They will make a huge difference to this year’s beneficiaries – **Pathways to Housing DC** and the **FCBA Foundation**. We greatly appreciate their support!


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to Housing DC

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Get to Know an **FCBA MEMBER**

Traci Biswese

By: Laura Phillips

Traci Biswese is one of the FCBA Foundation Trustees and is Vice President and Associate General Counsel at NCTA – The Internet & Television Association. She focuses on wireless spectrum policy, cybersecurity, supply chain, AI, and emerging tech matters. She plays a key role in engaging with federal regulators and shaping the association's legal and policy positions across the range of critical future focused issues that will affect NCTA's members. Traci brings over 14 years of experience from private practice and global tech companies, where she has a track record of leadership on complex regulatory and infrastructure initiatives across terrestrial, submarine cable, and wireless systems. I was delighted that Traci and I could meet up to discuss some of her career highlights.



Q: What attracted you to the field of communications?

A: I always wanted to do something that would make a positive difference and I've always been fascinated by how technology shapes society. Before being an undergraduate I thought I might do something with sports medicine or perhaps become a teacher, but over time was drawn towards law and business, leading me to a joint JD/MBA program. As a law student, I had the honor of serving on the *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment & Technology Law* and quickly became intrigued by the uniquely dynamic way the field of communications intersects across law, policy, economics, and innovation. The combination of rapid technological advancement and the opportunity to engage with complex regulatory issues drew me in. It continues to challenge and excite me today.

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

A: After graduating from law school, I began my career as a law clerk for Judge Curtis Gómez in the U.S. District Court for the Virgin Islands, who recently retired from the federal bench. Those were two wonderful years where I learned so much from a remarkably hardworking jurist. Following my clerkship, I joined what was then Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis (HWG), where I represented telecom and tech companies in regulatory, compliance,

and enforcement matters. From there, I did what a number of younger lawyers do, I moved in-house to RingCentral, a client of the firm whose chief regulatory officer was a former firm colleague. I later moved to Meta, supporting their connectivity deployments across the globe, including undersea cables, terrestrial fiber builds, satellite innovations, as well as novel spectrum arrangements. Now at NCTA, I work across a wide range of legal and policy issues impacting the broadband and media industries.

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

A: Not exactly, but things have unfolded in the best possible way. I didn't have a detailed map, but I knew I wanted to do work that was both intellectually engaging and impactful. Along the way, I've been fortunate to work with inspiring mentors and colleagues, and to be presented with opportunities – some of which were unexpected – that pushed me in new directions. I've learned to embrace pivots and to trust the process.

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

A: Helping to shape the industry's emerging tech policy, beginning with AI, has been incredibly rewarding. We are at an inflection point for how we think about AI, balancing innovation,

safety, and other public interest goals. Navigating those tensions, especially in an evolving regulatory environment, requires strategic agility, rapid learning, cross-team engagement, and deep subject-matter expertise.

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

A: I continue to be impressed by women leaders in our field who lead with strength and grace. Seeing women show up fully as lawyers, policy experts, caregivers, and community builders has inspired me throughout my career. Their example in different times and places in my career and life journey helped me understand that there is no single "right way" to lead or succeed. The one constant I would note, however, is that each woman leader that served as a role model was both committed to excellence, and authentic as an individual.

Q: What do you enjoy reading?

A: I love works of all sorts that explore identity and relationships. Authors like Toni Morrison, Isabel Wilkerson, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and Abraham Verghese are some of my favorites. I also enjoy memoirs and personal essays. Most recently, I've been reading more lower- and middle-grade school fiction with my daughters, which has been a joy.

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

A: I trained as a flautist growing up, and though I've forgotten more than I ever knew about actually playing the flute, music remains an important part of my life. These days, I no longer play, but I still find comfort and inspiration in it, especially when listening as my daughters learn to play classical piano and, more painfully, drums.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►

Get to Know an **FCBA MEMBER**

TRACI BISWESE

▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Q: 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: Don't underestimate the importance of relationships. This field is built on community. Stay curious, be humble, and don't be afraid to ask questions if you hit a dead end in your work or research and look for honest feedback from people whose opinion you value. And don't wait for the perfect job opportunity. Sometimes what looks like a detour leads to the opportunity that challenges and excites you in exactly the ways you need at that point in your career.

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

A: Like many parents and professionals, COVID-19 forced me to recalibrate and re-prioritize. It deepened my appreciation for flexibility in juggling home and work life, the critical nature of connection – however it was accomplished – and the need for all of us to cultivate resilience and encourage access to mental health knowledge and resources. On the professional side, it also expanded how I think about continuous learning, stretching myself, advocacy, and engagement.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to keep growing in various forms of leadership and to continue mentoring others as they navigate their own paths. I'm also eager to deepen my understanding of emerging technologies that are reshaping our field, including AI, next-generation connectivity, quantum networking, space and satellite communications, and trusted supply chain innovations. Staying curious and informed strengthens my ability to lead, advise, and collaborate on the issues shaping the future of connectivity and innovation.

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

A: I've been an FCBA member for over a decade. It has been a tremendous source of community and professional growth for me as I know it has been for others. The opportunity to serve on the FCBA Foundation, attend a wide range of FCBA sponsored events, and connect with peers and mentors across government, industry, and law firms has enriched my career in countless ways. It has also been a place where I've built great friendships.

Interested in learning more about another FCBA member? If there is a member you'd like to know better, contact Laura Phillips at laura@phillipscommmlaw.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, Ella Hillier (fclj@law.gwu.edu).

Thank you to HWG LLP for Sponsoring the 36th Annual Charity Auction at the Platinum Level!

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Thanks to our Fall Reception Sponsors!

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ANNUAL FCBA DINNER

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event. Federal employees may be invited to attend the dinner as a guest of an individual or organization without the involvement of the FCBA, however, the employee is required to seek written guidance from their agency before

accepting an invitation to the event (5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)). Invitations to Members of Congress and Congressional Staff must be issued by the FCBA.

Requests for invitations to be sent from the FCBA must be emailed to kerry@fcba.org by Wednesday, November 12. Invitees will be placed at the discretion of the FCBA.

Please note that seating is reserved and there will be no physical tickets to distribute. Your table number(s) will be emailed to you, and you will be responsible for distributing that information to your guests.

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.

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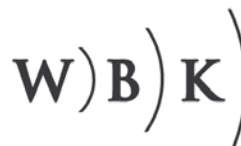
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Sponsors will receive name recognition for their support in the FCBA newsletter, on the FCBA website, and via social media. In addition, the top two sponsorship tiers will receive logo recognition in the newsletter. This sponsorship is for July 1 through 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.

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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.

10.1.25

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.

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!

Thank you to Somos, Inc. for Sponsoring the 36th Annual Charity Auction at the Platinum Level!

They will make a huge difference to this year's beneficiaries – **Pathways to Housing DC** and the **FCBA Foundation**. We greatly appreciate their support!



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 <http://www.fclj.org/volumes/> 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).

37TH FCBA ANNUAL DINNER *Registration*

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

**THE MARRIOTT MARQUIS
901 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW**

**RECEPTION - 5:30 P.M. - MEZZANINE
DINNER - 7:00 P.M. - MARQUIS BALLROOM**

TABLE: *

____ table(s) at \$4,795.00 per table

Note that each table will have 10 seats. Additional seats are not available for purchase.

**The FCBA Foundation is a charitable organization qualified under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the FCBA Foundation are tax deductible in the amount of \$150.00 for each Table. Tax ID # 51-0334407*

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS:

____ FCBA Private Sector/Non-Profit Member ticket(s) at \$375.00 each

____ FCBA Government/Academic/Transitional/Retired/Law Student Member ticket(s) at \$165.00 each

____ Non-Member ticket(s) at \$575.00 each

Contact Name _____

Organization Name for Table Signage _____

Address _____ Suite/Room/Apt. _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

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PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE "FCBA" NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7.

FCBA
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Washington, DC 20036
E-mail: wendy@fcba.org

Please email a copy of this form to wendy@fcba.org even if payment is being made by check. If it is mailed, there may be a delay in processing.

***We encourage organizations to pay via check or ACH to avoid high credit card processing fees. Please reach out to wendy@fcba.org if you would like ACH information. Of course, credit card payments are accepted.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT SEATING IS RESERVED AND THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL TICKETS. YOUR TABLE NUMBER(S) WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU AND YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISTRIBUTING THAT INFORMATION TO YOUR GUESTS.

Due to the nature of the event, there will be no refunds for tables purchased. Individuals may cancel and request a refund no later than Monday, November 24. No refunds will be granted after this date.

BUSINESS ATTIRE

Pursuant to the Office of Government Ethics regulation on widely attended gatherings (5 CFR 2635.204(g)(2)), the FCBA Annual Dinner appears to qualify as a widely attended event. Federal employees may be invited to attend the dinner as a guest of an individual or organization without the involvement of the FCBA, however, the employee is required to seek written guidance from their agency before accepting an invitation to the event (5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)). Invitations to Members of Congress and Congressional Staff must be issued by the FCBA. Requests for invitations to be sent from the FCBA must be emailed to kerry@fcba.org by Wednesday, November 12. Invitees will be placed at the discretion of the FCBA.

FCBA Extends a Warm Welcome to Its Newest Members!

(as of 9/30/25)

J. Breck Blalock, T-Mobile USA, Inc.
Tinae Bluitt, Fiber Broadband Association
Analese Bridges, Covington & Burling LLP
Evan Chiacchiaro, Covington & Burling LLP
Iulia Davies, Umbra
Dwight Eagan, Klein Law Group PLLC
Thomas Eybl, T-Mobile US, LLC
Connor Haffey, Morgan Lewis and Bockius LLP

Lydia Hennessey
Spencer Kelly
Leon Kenworthy, FCC
Deric Latendresse, Bluetooth SIG
Kay Marston, Lockheed Martin Corporation
Brian Mills, Maynard Nexsen PC
Anthony Paranzino, Wiley Rein LLP
Kendal Pickens
Seamus Quinn
Thomas Reynolds
Jessica Sneesby
Sanika Subhash
Giselle Valdez, Cooley LLP

Austin Walton, NCTA - The Internet & Television Association
Sallie Weaver, AMPTP
Dylan Woods, Cogeco Inc.
Brittany Young
Vladimir Zaragoza

And huge thanks to those who recruited them: **Brad Currier**, **Matt DelNero**, **Matt Diaz**, **Diane Holland**, **Radhika Karmarkar**, **Kenneth Katkin**, **Andrew Klein**, **Sarah Neal**, **Courtney Tolerico**

Calendar

October 20	CLE Seminar: Everyday Ethics Issues in Transactional Practice
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
November 10	CLE Seminar: Supplementing Terrestrial Coverage from Space: Views from Administrations and the Industry. Where are We Now and What to Expect in the Future?
November 13	Wellness Committee Strength Training 101
December 3	FCBA Annual Dinner featuring FCC Chairman Brendan Carr
December 3	Annual PLI and FCBA Conference
May 15-17, 2026	FCBA Annual Seminar at The Hotel Hershey in Hershey, PA

Thank you to Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP for Sponsoring the 36th Annual Charity Auction at the Platinum Level!

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