



# The Record

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## DCA Judges' Education Program Well Worth the Trip and Time for Section Members

By Daniel A. Bushell



D. BUSHNELL

Did you know that our District Court of Appeal judges almost unanimously prefer the iPhone over Android and Blackberry devices? Or that they have considerable disagreements over the ethics of online social media use?

You would if you had accepted the invitation to participate in the Florida Conference of District Court Judges' Annual Education Program held September 9-11, 2012 in Amelia Island. You also would have been made privy to many other nuggets of information—substantive, trivial, or otherwise—and given unparalleled opportunities to spend time with and learn from appellate judges and lawyers from across the state.

Granted, it wasn't easy to get to there. Amelia Island is far from almost anywhere—at least anywhere appellate lawyers live and practice law. Mid-September is, of course, the busiest time of year for most appellate lawyers. But as the saying goes, according to the effort is the reward, and this program was no exception.

Soon after arriving, judges and attorneys were invited to unwind after a day on the road at a Welcome Reception

sponsored by the Appellate Practice Section. As would prove to be true throughout the program, the mood at the reception was casual, and Section members were able to interact informally with appellate judges and practitioners from throughout the state. The dress code was also casual (“resort casual” to be precise), but judicial glosses on that term varied greatly, with some attendees wearing jeans and others wearing sport coats.

It was down to business (casual) first thing Monday morning. Seminar topics included same-sex marriage litigation and the resulting public/political backlash; litigation over prison overcrowding in California; and the use of military tribunals to try Guantanamo Bay prisoners. The afternoon was dedicated to technology: a South Dakota Supreme Court Justice led a discussion on the ethical issues raised by new technologies and online communication, and an exploration of how brief-writing might (and perhaps should) evolve to make them easier to read on tablets and other “screens” in an age when paper is becoming passé. Attorneys' participation in the educational program concluded Tuesday morning with an interactive presentation on the surprising role of judicial reinterpretation of existing statutes in furthering Nazi

*See “Education Program” next page*

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policies in 1930s Germany and implications for judges today looking to avoid repeating mistakes of the past.

Although the presenters were interesting, the judges' questions, comments, and critiques afterwards offered even more insight for appellate lawyers. And downtimes were equally valuable. Officially, the program included a Section member lunch with our Supreme Court justices. But there were many other

networking opportunities, such as Monday night, when many judges and lawyers took advantage of a break to enjoy one of Amelia Island's many outdoor activities, restaurants, and entertainment spots.

So if you didn't make it to the program, you missed out. But don't despair. There's always next year's program, which may be easier to get to. Even if it's not, the networking, educational, and recreational oppor-

tunities offered at this program will be well worth the trip.

*Daniel A. Bushell concentrates his practice in appellate advocacy, and has his own firm, Bushell Appellate Law, P.A. He also publishes a blog which examines appellate issues, and which may be found at <http://www.floridaappellatereview.com>. He is a member of the Appellate Practice and Advocacy section of the Florida Bar.*

## Twenty Questions With Justice Labarga

By Michael C. Greenberg



Justice Jorge Labarga has been on the Florida Supreme Court since 2009. He was profiled in *The Record* in the Summer 2009 edition. Michael C. Greenberg

spoke with Justice Labarga to get his quick thoughts on life a few years into his term on the Florida Supreme Court.

1. **Tell us a little bit about your family?**  
Married to Zulma Labarga for 32 years. Two daughters, Stephanie (age 26) and Caroline (age 23).
2. **Someone in your life that influenced you?**  
My wife and children.
3. **Your favorite food?**  
Cuban.
4. **Your favorite movie?**  
"Thirteen Days" with Kevin Costner and "The Natural" with Robert Redford.

5. **Last book read or now reading?**  
*The Oath* by Jeffrey Toobin.
6. **Favorite author?**  
David McCullough.
7. **Something that people do not know about you?**  
I'm actually very shy.
8. **Favorite experience?**  
The birth of my two children.
9. **Favorite vacation spot?**  
Barcelona, Spain.
10. **Goal you would like to achieve?**  
To be remembered as a good son, good father, and good husband, and to be regarded as a good public servant.
11. **The achievement of which you are most proud?**  
My appointment to the Florida Supreme Court.
12. **Least favorite law school memory?**  
The first day of class.
13. **Food you absolutely detest?**  
Seafood.
14. **What you would tell someone**

### thinking about entering the legal profession?

Lawyers, regardless of their specialty and political persuasion, have a unique obligation to the preservation and application of due process of law and equal protection to all.

15. **Favorite law school subject?**  
Constitutional law.
  16. **Least favorite law school subject?**  
Tax law.
  17. **Dream car?**  
Porsche 911 Turbo.
  18. **Hobbies?**  
Reading, running, anything to do with the beach.
  19. **Are you a good cook?**  
No.
  20. **Favorite restaurant?**  
Columbia Restaurant, Ybor City.
- Michael C. Greenberg is a Senior Attorney with the Florida Bar, working out of its Ft. Lauderdale office. He is board certified in Appellate Practice and Advocacy, and is a member of the Appellate Rules Committee.*

# Chair's Message – Looking Forward to Another Great Twenty Years

By Jack R. Reiter



J. REITER

When I first had the honor of stepping into the role as Chair of this Section after three years of serving as Editor of *The Record* and another four years as an Officer, I encouraged members to get involved by attending our meetings and seminars and volunteering to work on our committees. As I wrote one year ago, this is your Section – be a part of it. Now, as we approach the end

of our 20th year, I take great pride in reflecting on another stellar year of activity that highlights the commitment of our members and their service to The Florida Bar.

The Section started the year by again hosting a welcome reception at the Florida Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges Annual Education Program and held its first meeting immediately following the conference. This was the third time Section members were offered the opportunity to attend the Conference and interact with appellate judges from across the State while obtaining legal education credits. It was a terrific learning experience that was both enjoyable and enriching and if you have not yet attended this event, I strongly encourage you to do so.

The Section also continued in its commitment to providing a steady stream of articles on appellate topics to *The Florida Bar Journal* and continuing legal education presentations. Among the Section's highlights this year was the Eleventh Circuit Appellate Practice Institute seminar, presented by the Section along with the Alabama and Georgia State Bars and hosted, in part, by the Miami-Dade Community College. The Section also presented a seminar on Practicing Before the Fifth District Court of Appeal, and continued to provide monthly, telephonic seminars.

In addition to the continuing commitment to providing continuing legal education, this year I also worked to invigorate the Section's Outreach Committee. The Committee assumed the task of advancing the Section's visibility by expanding the diversity of the leadership base within the Section. I firmly believe that relationships between our Section and other Sections and Committees is a key component of growth and continued success. Therefore, I encourage the

Section to continue expanding the liaison program and to work with other Sections and Committees in order to collaborate regarding our seminars and other special events.

The Pro Bono Committee continued to handle appeals referred from legal aid organizations and the appellate courts, as well as direct requests from indigent pro se litigants. In late 2011, the Committee developed a system for tracking appeals its members have handled. Since that time, the Committee has tracked eighteen appeals that the Committee has handled on behalf of indigent litigants. Committee members have also increasingly been working with legal aid organizations to provide mentoring and guidance through the appellate process and exploring a screening process to identify additional pro se litigants who need assistance.

This was a big year for our Public Advocacy and Legislation Committee as we witnessed debate concerning Florida's merit retention system and potential threats to an independent judiciary. As part of its mission, the Section through this Committee worked to disseminate information to Bar members and the public at large regarding the merit retention system in connection with The Florida Bar's information campaign known as "The Vote's In Your Court." Additionally, after The Florida Bar took an official position encouraging voters to reject proposed "Amendment 5" to the Florida Constitution, the Appellate Practice Section voted to take an identical position based upon the threat to an independent judiciary presented by the amendment. Voters rejected the Amendment during the General Election of November 6, 2012.

Overall, it has been another incredible year, and I am both proud and humbled to have had the opportunity to serve as Chair. As I complete my term, I want to reiterate that no Section Chair can fulfill this role without the dedication and hard work of the Officers, the Executive Council, the Program Administrator, and the members who support these efforts. I want to again extend a special thanks to the Section's judicial liaisons: Florida Supreme Court Justice Peggy Quince, First District Court of Appeal Judge Stephanie Ray; Second District Court of Appeal Judge Morris Silberman, Third District Court of Appeal Judge Richard Suarez; Fourth District

*continued, page 8*

# JUDICIAL PROFILES

## Judge Thomas Logue

By Jessie Harrell



Judge Thomas Logue is the newest face on Florida's Third District Court of Appeal. He received his appointment to the bench on July 6, 2012 from Governor Scott, fill-

ing the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Juan Ramirez, Jr. On announcing Judge Logue's appointment, the Governor said, "Tom brings to the bench an impressive record as a litigator and appellate attorney. Equally impressive is Tom's abiding commitment to judicial restraint. His career and his scholarly writings demonstrate a deep understanding of the notion that the rule of law, and not personal preference, must prevail in our courts." Indeed, Judge Logue's commitment to public service is impressive, and he brings to the bench a breadth of knowledge in many substantive areas of the law.

***"Dedication is not what others expect of you, it is what you can give to others."* – Anonymous**

For thirty years, Judge Logue was an Assistant County Attorney for Miami-Dade County. He litigated in state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels, as well as practiced before administrative bodies, such as the Florida Cabinet. He was named a "Top Government Attorney" by Florida Trend Magazine and the South Florida Legal Guide and received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. His areas of practice in the County Attorneys Office spanned the areas of constitutional law, torts, contracts, taxes, civil rights, zoning,

real estate valuation, copyrights, and bonds. Judge Logue has served as the legal advisor to the County Commission, the property appraiser, and to various zoning and quasi-judicial boards. He has also drafted state and local legislation and negotiated major contracts on behalf of Miami-Dade County.

Perhaps not surprisingly, Judge Logue enjoyed appellate practice before the Third District more than any other area he worked in. "I enjoy the craft of writing briefs. I particularly like honing and polishing the brief after the first draft," he said. And once before the court, Judge Logue remembers that "arguing cases before judges like Thomas Barkdull, Alan Schwartz, Dan Pearson, and Gerald Cope was an intellectual roller-coaster ride. They were brilliant and down-to-earth at the same time." Another reason he enjoyed appellate work is "the fact that appeals shape the law. I got a big kick out of those occasional appeals that resulted in 'trophy' opinions which resolved important issues and which were later cited in other cases."

When asked what benefits he perceived from staying with the same employer for 30 years, Judge Logue said: "Serving as counsel for county or local governments is a wonderful career for the right person. More lawyers should consider it. You work on matters of concern to your community. You litigate against some of the best lawyers in the State. You get to wear the 'white hat' a little more often than some of your friends in private practice. Judges, lawyers and citizens expect a higher level of professionalism and fairness from you, which raises the level of your practice." Given these benefits, it's easy to understand why Judge Logue stated that he "loved working at the Miami-

Dade County Attorney's Office."

In addition to his public service, Judge Logue has also taught Florida Constitutional Law as an adjunct professor at both the University of Miami School of Law and St. Thomas University School of Law. When asked what it is about constitutional law that interests him so much, he stated, "I believe our U.S. Constitution is one of the great evolutionary advances in world history. But it is only half the story. Our state constitutions are the under-appreciated, other-half of the American constitutional tradition." In fact, Judge Logue has a keen interest in the development of the Florida constitution, noting it has a "particularly interesting and tumultuous constitutional history with a new constitution being adopted for the Jacksonian, civil war, reconstruction, redemption, and the civil rights eras of our history." Not content to just lecture, Judge Logue has also published articles on takings, federalism, civil procedure, administrative law, and legal theory.

As you might expect from one so committed to public service, Judge Logue has also been active in a number of professional and civic groups. He is a member of the Spellman-Hoeveler American Inns of Court and served as a Director of the Dade County Bar Association, where he also chaired numerous Bar Committees. He is a trustee and founding member of the 11th Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida Historical Society. He was also vice-chair of the Coral Gables Charter Review Committee and served as a member of the Governor's Ad Valorem Tax Task Force. In addition to these commitments outside of his career, Judge Logue also found time to provide pro bono appellate advocacy on behalf of abused children, for which the Guard-

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ian ad Litem Program for the 11th Judicial Circuit honored him. When asked why advocating for children was important to him, Judge Logue responded, “[i]t is uplifting to help a child in danger find the safety of a nurturing home.” He encourages others to take cases for abused children, noting that these appeals are “a great way to do pro bono work.” He cautions that “not every case has a happy ending, but some do.” In addition to helping a child, this work “increases your pride in your profession, your confidence in your legal skills, and your gratitude for many things you might otherwise take for granted, such as your own upbringing and family. There can be a spiritual side to practicing law.”

Speaking of family, Judge Logue is himself blessed in that respect. He has been married to his wife, Sheila, for over thirty years and boasts that she is his college sweetheart. They have three teenage daughters and live in Coral Gables.

***“We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done.” – Henry Wadsworth Longfellow***

Judge Logue was not content to sit on his laurels. After 30 years of dedicated advocacy on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Judge Logue decided to apply for appointment to the Third District Court of Appeal. When asked why he applied for the position, he responded, “I believed I had something to contribute to the court. I consulted friends who understood the process and they encouraged me. For thirty years, it had been a dream of mine to be on the Third.” Unquestionably, Judge Logue has many talents to offer the citizens of Florida through his service on the bench. During his tenure on the Third, Judge Logue has a few legacies he’d like to leave. First, he would “hope to write a few serviceable

opinions.” He also said that, “when and if appropriate, I hope to write opinions reinforcing our tradition of the separation of powers, which is one of the pillars of American freedom.”

At the time of this article, Judge Logue has had a few months of experience on the bench. Asked what advice he would offer to practitioners, he honed in on oral argument, saying, “[i]n the Third District, you can bank on the fact that the judges have studied the briefs and independently reviewed the record. So do not waste your limited time providing background. Jump right to the dispute. Explain why the facts favoring your client are pivotal to deciding the appeal. Tie the essential facts to the statute at issue or the appellate opinions closest to your position.” Judge Logue also advises practitioners that “you will be asked to distinguish specific cases cited by your opponent. You may well be asked to name and discuss the one case that you believe most supports your position. Some lawyers seem genuinely surprised when they get these questions. They are easy pitches. Be ready to hit them out of the ballpark.” Finally, the judge advises lawyers to “remember, of course, that the decision of the trial judge below must not only reflect

legal error, it must constitute harmful error.”

Judge Logue was also gracious enough to share how he prepares for oral argument now that he is on the court. He says that he studies the briefs, prints and reads the key cases, reviews the trial order being appealed, and examines the most pertinent parts of the record, such as the affidavit or contract at issue, or the pages of the transcript containing crucial testimony. He frequently asks his law clerks to brief specific issues as well. In regards to his own questioning style during oral argument, the judge noted: “I appreciate a full airing of the strengths and weaknesses of the opposing positions so do not assume that the questions I ask reflect how I am going to rule. If I ask a question, I will give the attorney ample time to answer. I will listen carefully to the answer. I will be courteous. If an attorney does not answer my question, I may not press him or her, but I will probably assume an evasive answer reflects an admission of a weak legal position on that point.”

In respect to brief writing, there are some things that practitioners can (and should) do make Judge Logue’s life easier. Although the judge

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has his law clerks pull key portions of the record for him (and he noted that the clerk, Mary Cay Blanks, “is incredibly nimble and quick in delivering the record to our chambers”), “it would certainly be convenient to me if lawyers would file very small appendices with no more than the one, two, or three documents from the record that are most important to resolving the appeal, such as the court order on review, the crucial transcript excerpts with a few extra pages for context, the affidavits, the will, the contract at issue, etc.” The judge also advises practitioners to keep their brief short, but if that is not possible, “at least make sure that your summary of argument and your captions provide brief, clear road maps of your argument.” He even noted that

“in retrospect, I would have made my summaries of arguments shorter, no more than 2 pages.” Finally, when asked what his biggest surprise has been since taking the bench, Judge Logue said, “I taught the jurisdiction of the Florida courts, so I have no excuse. But the biggest surprise was the breath of the jurisdiction of the District Courts of Appeal. In the same morning I have heard cases involving torts, marriages, contracts, probate, criminal law, and real estate. It is one of the challenges and one of the pure delights of the job.” The judge also noted that “state appellate judges may be the last heirs of Atticus Finch, the last authentic generalists.” And perhaps a reference to Atticus Finch is the best way to close an article about a man who has provided

such dedicated service to the citizens of this state, who has worn the white hat for thirty years, who has stood up for children in the foster care system, who has shared his love of our system of government with countless aspiring lawyers, and who is now poised to help shape the law in Florida. We, as lawyers, should look forward to seeing what good work Judge Logue can do on the Third District and welcome him to the bench.

*Jessie Harrell is an attorney with the Jacksonville appellate boutique of Creed & Gowdy, P.A. She is currently the chair of the CLE Committee for the Appellate Practice Section of the Florida Bar and the chair of the appellate section of the Jacksonville Bar Association.*

## Judge Scott Makar

By Jennifer Shoaf Richardson



When Governor Rick Scott appointed Scott Makar to the First District Court of Appeal in February of 2012, he ended Jacksonville’s eighteen-year dry spell on the state’s largest and busiest appellate court.<sup>1</sup> Judge Makar brings a wealth of appellate experience, a broad legal background, and a focus on service to the court and the legal community. Over lunch at Jacksonville’s iconic Whiteway Deli, he shed light on his past, his values, and his advice for attorneys appearing before him.

### The Man Behind the Robe

Makar grew up on Holmes Beach in Manatee County after moving to Florida from New York at age nine.

He fondly remembers island-life along with little league baseball and junior golf (he competed against the likes of Paul Azinger). His athletic claim to fame is a runner-up finish in the 1976 Florida Junior PGA with a final round record 67 at Disney’s Magnolia course. He attributes his athletic interest to his grandfather, Harry Wantshouse, who was a full-back at Penn State, and later a high school coach. During high school, Makar attended oral argument of the Second District in Lakeland as a part of a government day program; that experience ignited his interest in appellate courts; it also introduced him to then-Judge Steve Grimes, with whom Makar became a law partner after Justice Grimes returned to legal practice. In a complete turn-of-the-wheel, Judge Makar hopes to sit with the Second District in Lakeland at a future date.

Positive female role models were

a part of his upbringing. His grandmother, Fae Wantshouse, was the first female postmaster in their hometown. His mother, Barbara Makar, was a learning disabilities teacher and the author of a series of children’s books called *Primary Phonics*. She instilled a passion for education in her son, who received his B.S. from Mercer University and later his M.A. (economics), M.B.A. (finance), J.D., and Ph.D. (economics) from the University of Florida, where he was on law review and founded *Journal of Law and Public Policy*, whose 25th anniversary is this year. After law school, Judge Makar clerked for Judge Thomas A. Clark of the Eleventh Circuit, an experience that confirmed his interest in becoming an appellate judge. He went on to rise through the ranks at Holland & Knight, from a summer associate in its Tampa and Tallahassee offices, to an associate in its Tallahassee office, and ultimately a

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shareholder in its Jacksonville office. The judge's advice for young lawyers stepping onto the professional ladder is to squeeze a year and a half of experience from every year of work. He remarked that working long hours was made easier by viewing each case as an opportunity to broaden his experience and knowledge of the law. He also advises to follow the "You Gotta Be Somebody" advice of former partner Chesterfield Smith by immersing oneself in community/bar service, pro bono, continuing education, and other pursuits that make a well-rounded lawyer/leader. Seeking out and latching onto great mentors—like past ABA President Martha Barnett and former Florida Supreme Court Justices Ray Ehrlich and Steve Grimes in Makar's case—made a huge difference.

During his time at Holland & Knight, he met his wife, Nancy Hogshhead-Makar, a triple gold medalist in swimming at the 1984 Olympics, now a tenured professor at Florida Coastal School of Law and the Senior Director of Advocacy at the Women's Sports Foundation where she works as a national/international advocate for gender equity in sports. He lightheartedly notes that because of the firm's stringent anti-nepotism policy he had to get the blessing of managing partner Bill McBride before he could ask Nancy out on a date. The Makars, who live in Jacksonville's historic Riverside-Avondale district, have three children: Aaron (12) and twins Helen Clare and Millicent (7). Among many other qualities, Nancy mentioned that she admires her husband's ability to focus on the task at hand no matter what distractions are present.

In 2001, Judge Makar became the chief of the appellate division in the Office of General Counsel for the City of Jacksonville where he remained for six years, handling a wide range of legal issues. In 2007, he was appointed Florida's Solicitor General by

Attorney General Bill McCollum; he was retained by Pam Bondi after her election in 2010. As Solicitor General, he argued five cases in the United States Supreme Court,<sup>2</sup> four in the 2009 term, a record for a state solicitor general. His fondest memories are of his wife and son Aaron being at the Court to see some of his arguments (his girls were too young) and the sketch artist's renderings of them.

Since 1984, the judge has taught law courses at the undergraduate and law school levels, including the University of Florida College of Law,



"Portraits" of Judge Makar, done by his twin daughters.

Florida State University College of Law, Florida Coastal School of Law, University of North Florida, and Jacksonville University. Since taking the bench, he continues to teach, most recently teaching *Appellate Law and Policy* and *Florida, The Constitution, and The United States Supreme Court* at his alma mater. During his career, Judge Makar authored over two dozen articles on a wide variety of topics. He currently is working on two books, one about important United States Supreme Court cases from

Florida and another about famous Florida trials.

### Life at the First DCA

Judge Makar has proven to be a prolific opinion writer, authoring majority, concurring, and dissenting opinions in his first six months on the bench. He labeled one a "dubitante" concurrence because he agreed affirmance was required but was doubtful about the result. He has also been innovative, hiring three law clerks rather than the usual two law clerks and a judicial assistant; his goal is to have clerks from each law school in the First District (two are currently from Florida Coastal, one from Florida State). Staying current on his cases is facilitated by the exceptional electronic filing system at the First District, which makes the record, briefs, motions, and internal memoranda available to judges and staff at a click of the mouse; staff memoranda are hyperlinked to the briefs and record, simplifying the task of cross-checking references. He set up a modest office in a detached garage behind his home, making it possible to work remotely from Jacksonville. His wife appreciates being able to have lunch with her husband, who spent most of his time in Tallahassee while serving as Solicitor General.

The judge believes that parties in closely-contested cases should be given an explanation, however brief, of the reasoning underlying the court's decisions. As an appellate practitioner, he recalls that per curiam affirmed decisions typically were less than satisfying to the parties, even the prevailing ones. But he recognizes that time and other constraints make opinions in every close case infeasible or inadvisable.

He enjoys the decision-making process, particularly discussing cases with his colleagues and law clerks, the latter being present during panel conferences. He takes the work of the court seriously, but strives to make

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his office a place where coming to work is enjoyable. Underlying his serious demeanor is a warm sense of humor. He has deferred his formal portrait—traditionally done soon after appointment to the court—until he has served at least a year. In its place temporarily is a dual portrait by his twin daughters, done when they were in Pre-K 4, adding a bit of levity and color to the attorneys' lounge. At his investiture, he got a round of laughter when he unveiled a proposed court seal with a new motto: "Accedemus Laborare," which roughly means "Let's Get to Work."

## Tips for Practitioners

Judge Makar offered advice for lawyers practicing in the First District. He urges attorneys to avoid formulaic statements of settled law and to omit marginally relevant facts; briefs should be brief. Focus on the merits of your best arguments, and eliminate others. Keep in mind that, although judges read the briefs, they often get their initial impressions of a case from reading law clerk summaries. So, practitioners should themati-

cally emphasize important points and weave them throughout their briefs, making them quickly and easily understood by all levels of attorneys.

Judge Makar recognizes that although attorneys want to emphasize certain points at oral argument, they should welcome questions because they provide insight into the court's mental impressions. Listening is an important skill at oral argument. As a judge, he's found that preparations for a day's worth of cases is challenging, and that the time typically allocated for argument makes getting his questions answered challenging. He cautions that overly boisterous jury-style arguments are a mistake; a dialogue or conversation with the court is much preferred. He wryly noted that he felt most self-critical after his argument in *Stop the Beach Renourishment* (which he won 8-0) and that D.C. insiders felt his best was in *Holland v. Florida* (which he lost 7-2). All is not lost when oral argument doesn't go as planned.

For practitioners considering applying for a judicial appointment, Judge Makar's message is simple: try and try again if you feel the call to

serve. At his investiture, he jokingly disclosed the "12-8-4-1 Plan" that got him appointed to the First District: Over twelve years, he applied eight times, was nominated four times, and was appointed once. His resilience paid off and Florida will reap the benefits of a man who considers himself blessed to have had good jobs, good mentors, interesting work, and a family he values above all else.

*Jennifer Shoaf Richardson joined Creed & Gowdy, P.A., as an associate, after serving for three years as a law clerk to Judges Peter D. Webster and Simone Marstiller of Florida's First District Court of Appeal. She received her B.A. cum laude from the University of Florida and her J.D. cum laude from Florida Coastal School of Law.*

## Endnotes:

- 1 The last appointee from Jacksonville was Judge William Van Nortwick, Jr., in 1994.
- 2 *Holland v. Florida*, 130 S. Ct. 2549 (2010); *Stop the Beach Renourishment Inc. v. Florida Department of Environmental Protection*, 130 S. Ct. 2592 (2010); *Sullivan v. Florida*, 130 S. Ct. 2059 (2010); *Graham v. Florida*, 130 S. Ct. 2011 (2010); *Florida Dep't of Revenue v. Piccadilly Cafeterias, Inc.*, 128 S. Ct. 2326 (2008).

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE, from page 3

Court of Appeal Judge Spencer Levine; Fifth District Court of Appeal Judge Charles Lawson; and Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeal Judge Rosemary Barkett. Also, thank you to the Section's Board of Governors Representative, Juliet Roulhac, and the Officers: Chair-Elect Caryn Bellus, Vice-Chair Ceci Berman, Secretary-Treasurer Chris Carlyle, and Immediate Past-Chair Matthew Conigliaro. Additionally, the Section would be

unable to function without the daily assistance from its Florida Bar Liaison and Program Administrator, Mary Ann Obos.

The Section also thanks each of the Committee Chairs and Editors who devote time and energy to perpetuating the Section's role and function: Anniversary Committee Co-Chairs, Dorothy Easley and Celene Humphries, Continuing Legal Education Committee Chair: Jessie Harrell, Outreach Committee Co-Chairs,

Siobhan Shea and Robyn Bresky, Public Advocacy and Legislation Committee Chair Nicholas Shannin; Pro Bono Committee Chair, Sarah Lahlou-Amine, Self-Represented Litigant (Pro Se Handbook Committee) Chair, Kimberly Jones, Programs Committee Chair, June Hoffman, Publications Committee Chair, Kristin Norse, and Website Committee Chair, Jonathan Streisfeld.

Thank you again for an incredible year.