# SPBC FAWL

Promoting Women's Leadership Roles within the Legal Profession Since 2003 Fall 2017 Edition

## Letter from the President



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When I graduated law school in 1999 and began my practice in Boca Raton, the only FAWL Chapters that existed for women lawyers was the Broward Chapter and the Palm Beach Chapter—each requiring a minimum 45-minute drive each way, taking a 3-hour chunk out of the business day. Under the leadership of Lisa Peraza, a small group of women lawyers, myself included, founded the South Palm Beach County Chapter in 2003.

It is with great honor that I act as the current President of this incredible organization, following in the footsteps of so great lawyers before me. The 2017-2018 Board



Tammy B. Saltzman President of SPBC FAWL

was installed at the Installation Luncheon on June 8, 2017 at our new lunch location, City Fish Market. The current Board worked hard at the Summer Retreat on July 15, 2017 planning out the year. We continue to grow our membership and plan exciting events, all with the support of our annual sponsors. A special thanks to our Platinum Sponsors: Sabadell United Bank, Signature Paradise Realty, Print eSolutions, Lesser Lesser Landy & Smith, PLLC, The Law Offices of Robin Bresky, Attorney at law Magazine, Duree & Company, and Eliot Popper—Morgan Stanley; and our Gold Sponsors: Richman Capital Management, Veritext Legal Solutions, Meryl Charnow—Merrill Lynch, and TBS LAW, P.A. We are so very grateful for your generosity.

We launched the year off right with a fabulous Membership Reception on August 31 at the Pavilion Grille. On October 12, we hosted our annual Think Pink Event which was a smashing success, raising money for

## SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD!!!



the Marie Louise Cancer Foundation. On November 9, we earned a Technology CLE hearing from Logiforce on Understanding Digital Evidence.

Special events included a Joint Event with former president, Robin Bresky, who is the current President of the National Conference of Women's Bar Association. The event took place at the beautiful rooftop of the Hyatt Place in downtown Boca Raton honoring Judge Kathleen Kroll with a Lifetime Achievement Award. We held a Joint event with SPBCBA providing an informative CLE on the Palm Beach Juvenile System which was held at the iPic Theater and moderated by Administrative Judge James Martz.

We are looking forward to our Holiday Party on December 20, at the Seagate Country Club in Delray Beach. Coming in January we will be having a Joint Lunch with SPBCBA at Morton's Steak House, Boca Raton, hearing from our current Florida Bar President, Michael J. Higer. He will be discussing: Reconnecting With Why it Matters: State of the Florida Bar.

Thank you to the current Board of Directors for all of your help and support making this a great year. Thank you to all the Past Presidents for paving a bright path for me to follow. It is your hard work and dedication that make this organization great.

Happy Holidays. Wishing you and yours a fabulous New Year!!

All my best, Tammy Saltzman, President of SPBC FAWL

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## MEMBER NEWS, EVENTS, & OPPORTUNITIES



**Rina Feld, Esq.**, of the **Law Offices of Rina Feld**, who handles Probate Administration, Estate Planning, and Property

Insurance Claims, has updated her business mailing address to the following: 7000 West Palmetto Park Road, Suite 210, Boca Raton, Florida 33433. Rina can be reached at (561)



600-8843 or <u>rf@rinafeldpacom</u>. **Tammy Saltzman, Esq.** is pleased to announce that **TBS LAW, PA** has a new office location at 2701 NW Boca Raton Boulevard, Suite 111, Boca Raton,

Florida 33432. Tammy can be reached at (561) 221-0577 or <u>tammy@tbslawpa.com</u>.

## MEDIATION PSYCHOLOGY 101: WHO BLINKS FIRST?

#### by Nate Schwartz, Esq.



I'm not sure these days which 900 lb. animal in the room is the correct standard: the elephant or the gorilla. I'm going to go with the elephant since it's a little more docile and therefore less likely to cause harm to life or limb (especially if one happens to show up at a mediation).

In the context of mediation psychology, the 900 lb. elephant in the room is the question of who blinks first, which is to say, which party first broaches the subject of mediation, the implication being that suggesting

mediation implies weakness in one's case. This problem is compounded by the sad truth that the one suggesting mediation usually does have (or at least believes that he has) the weaker case. Worse yet, psychology and evolution teach us that the "alpha" lawyer (the one who believes that he has the stronger case) will resist mediation because it is in his client's best interest to do so; because he can bill more by dragging the case out; and, well, because he can.

So the challenge becomes: how do we get the alpha lawyer to agree to early mediation? Several strategies come to mind:

### I.The Courts

The courts love to send parties to mediation mainly because each settlement takes one case off of their already overcrowded dockets. Unfortunately, at least in Florida, unless you notice the case for trial or you are in small claims, it is unlikely that a judge is going to spontaneously order the parties to mediation. You can always move the court for early mediation and most judges are all too happy to order it unless the other side is kicking and screaming against it (in which case the mediation probably would not succeed anyway).

The problem with a motion directed at early mediation is that it keeps the "alpha lawyer" concept intact. That is, the other side will attend if they're ordered to but they'll stake out a hard line again because they believe that they have the stronger case and you'll end up with a bill for an unsuccessful mediation and an unhappy client.

## 2.The "Sale"

What can a party do to "sell" the other side on the idea that mediation, particularly early mediation, is in its best interest? One idea is to up the ante by coming out of the gate aggressively with heavy discovery, attacking the other side's pleadings and even a very early trial notice (all of which should only be done, of course, if there is a good faith basis to do so). Sending a message to the other side that you intend to assert your client's rights aggressively could bring about a willingness to mediate early and could even shift the balance of power making your side the "alpha".

Another bit of salesmanship involves, well...salesmanship. I strongly believe that it is almost always in the parties' best mutual interests to mediate particularly early in the case. A good salesman on your side and an open minded attorney on the other side can get it done without coming off as if you have the weaker case.

Related to salesmanship is simple honesty. "Hey Joe, it's in nobody's best interest to drag this one into a quagmire. My client is willing to entertain any reasonable offer. We'll end up in front of a mediator anyway–let's do it sooner rather than later." If you are lucky enough to pull one of the 1% of the attorneys on the other side that is honest (Relax my fellow attorneys!!! I'm just joking here! We all know the figure is closer to 3%), you may just have some success with the honest approach.

**Bottom line:** you owe it to yourself and your client to test the waters of early mediation. If you're good–really good–you can get the other side to come along.

Nate Schwartz is a mediator certified in Circuit, County, and Family as well as a practicing attorney in collections/commercial litigation. He is principal of mediation5.com and Nathan A. Schwartz, P.A. He hopes to become mediator to SPBC FAWL.

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## FALL IN REVIEW

by Staci L. Burton, Esq.

2017 is coming to an end, and it has been quite an eventful few



months for South Palm Beach County FAWL. The board met in July for our annual retreat to plan yet another great year of social, networking, and philanthropic events.

We kicked off the year with our

Membership Reception at Pavilion Grille on September 19, 2017. It was wonderful to see all of our returning members and welcome our new members. The celebration was very much needed after the stress and chaos of Hurricane Irma. October 12, 2017 was our 9th Annual Think Pink Luncheon at City Fish Market in Boca Raton. We had two phenomenal speakers, licensed nutritionist Meryl Brandwein and BRCA gene carrier Lisa Hilgenfeldt. We collectively raised over \$1,000.00 for the Marie Louise Cancer Foundation.



Think Pink Luncheon at City Fish Market

November Luncheon at City Fish Market

November was a very busy month for us! We held a joint event with the National Conference of Women's Bar Association on November 2, 2017, where Judge Kathleen Kroll was presented



with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations to Judge Kroll! On November 3, 2017, Judge Martz presented Juvenile Court 101: Understanding the Role and Needs of the Juvenile Division. This joint CLE with the South Palm Beach County Bar Association at iPic was informative as to how to get involved and make a positive impact in the Juvenile Court System.

Our November Luncheon at City Fish Market featured speaker James

NCWBCA Conference at the Hyatt Place KempVanEe from Logicforce. It was an interesting presentation regarding critical information for lawyers to know about digital evidence in order to win our cases and protect our clients.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Holiday Party on December 20, 2017 at Seagate Country Club in Delray Beach. Rumor has it that Santa and Mrs. Claus will be making an appearance again this year. We will be collecting donations for "In Jacob's Shoes." We wish you and yours a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!



## SPBC FAWL'S NEWEST ARRIVALS!

~Addison Lyla Feingold~ June 12, 2017 at 6:04 P.M., 6 lbs. 9 oz., 19 1/4 in. Congratulations to our President-Elect, Melissa Melzer Feingold, and family!





~Julian Asher Glass~ October 9, 2017 at 10:56 A.M., 8 lbs. 15 oz., 20 in. Congratulations to our Newsletter Editor, Lisa Paige Glass, and family!



~Mia Isabella Fishman~ May 11, 2017 at 9:06 P.M., 7 lbs. 13 oz., 20 in. Congratulations to our Historian, Staci L. Burton, and family!



## SEXUAL HARASSMENT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS...SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO AVOID A CLAIM MADE AGAINST YOUR BUSINESS?



#### by Ellen Leibovitch, Esq.

As all of you know, today's headlines have been dominated by stories of sexual harassment. Last year, Bill Cosby and Donald Trump got most of the press, as did the decades-old charges against Bill Clinton. This year, we have heard about complaints made against Harvey Weinstein, Bill O'Reilly, Roger Ailes, Kevin Spacey, Louis C.K., Roy Moore, and others. The list grows day by day.

Not all of these claims took place in a workplace setting, but many of them did. Some of you may remember back in 1991 when sexual harassment in the workplace first became mainstream news. I can still recall when Anita Hill accused Clarence Thomas, her former boss (and

nominee to the United States Supreme Court), of sexually harassing her while the two worked together: asking her out on dates even after she repeatedly refused, discussing sex in the work place, commenting on his own sexual prowess, etc. After the hearings on Justice Thomas' confirmation, lawyers like me first began seeing a slew of sexual harassment lawsuits brought against our employer clients. In fact, I eventually became an employment lawyer exclusively because I had to learn how to defend these lawsuits, which had never before been handled by any of the lawyers in the large, litigation-driven firm where I was then working.

Over the years, employers-especially those who were sued and paid big-time attorneys' fees and settlements-got smarter. They developed anti-harassment policies, they trained their managers and employees, they hired sophisticated human resources managers to nip these claims in the bud, and some even procured employer practices liability insurance (EPLI) coverage. These actions, as well as the Supreme Court's holding in the Faragher v. City of Boca Raton case (which limited an employer's liability for a supervisor who engages in sexual harassment at work), have made lawsuits for sexual harassment a rarity these days.

Although these lawsuits no longer dominate my case load, the tide could easily change with the new wave of sexual harassment claims in today's headlines. It will not be long before the person behind the "Me Too" post on Facebook brings a sexual harassment claim against her employer (note that individual harassers are not personally liable under applicable employment laws such as the Florida and federal civil rights acts; the employer bears sole responsibility). Accordingly,

my advice to smart employers is to be proactive today, and I have two key recommendations for how to do so:

First, all employers need to review their existing sexual harassment policies (or, heaven forbid, hire an employment attorney to draft one if you do not have a policy). Make sure the policy clearly defines and prohibits any form of sexual harassment in the work place and describes a procedure for making complaints of harassment, including designating alternate persons to whom such complaints can be reported. Although it should go without saying, the policy must be followed by the employer and must not be pure window dressing: complaints should be taken seriously, investigated, and resolved and, if the complaint has merit, the offending employee should be disciplined.

Second, all employers should train managers AND employees on the policy. Many employers have new hires simultaneously sign off on receipt of their handbook and sexual harassment policy without specifically training employees about recognizing, addressing, and reporting sexual harassment in the work place. And other employers wrongly assume that managers should know what to do if they see or are presented with a harassment complaint. Employment attorneys and human resources consultants offer such training services, as do employee leasing companies; some EPLI providers may offer these services as well. An investment in training goes a long way in establishing a harassment-free work place, and the costs of training are far less than those that may be incurred defending a lawsuit.

The old saying goes, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." If your business is ever forced to defend a sexual harassment claim, you will be in a better position to defend such claim by following the guidance above. If I can assist you in any way, please call or email me at (561) 948-2479 and emi@ assoulineberlowe.com.

Ellen Leibovitch is a board-certified labor and employment lawyer at Assouline & Berlowe, P.A. and is a Past President of SPBC FAWL.

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Recently, as I was wandering through my "Happy Place" (Disney World), it occurred to me that Snow White would have had a heck of a time deciding on a home, due to having to deal with all Seven Dwarfs and their various idiosyncrasies. Although I usually do not have to contend with Seven Dwarfs, I find that my psychology background comes in handy when faced with the many personalities and sometimes conflicting concerns of my real estate clients. It is important to help them balance emotional, psychological, and financial issues when making decisions about buying or selling real estate. After all, the purchase or sale of a property is often one of the largest and most important financial decisions that we make, and it is critical to understand the factors that drive these decisions.

Throughout the process of buying or selling property, even the most sophisticated client morphs into many of these storybook characters, and it is often my job to help them get back to their "happy place".

**Grumpy**—I know it is hard to believe, but most people become grumpy at some point in the process of buying or selling property! No matter how hard we try to minimize the stress, anticipate challenges, and find solutions to problems that arise, it can be a long and daunting task. As with any legal transaction, the importance of having trusted professionals overseeing the process is critical.

Doc questions everything. He is detail-oriented and wants to understand the process, from the time he is thinking about a move until long after we have left the closing table. It is important for him to have the opportunity to be involved and examine all aspects of the transaction, from the search to locate a property, or examining comparables to determine a listing price, to the contract, inspections, financing, and closing. Information is his friend.

**Dopey** is the opposite of Doc, not wanting to discuss the details of the contract, the inspection, the appraisal, or the closing. Dopey trusts me and the other professionals involved and wants everything on autopilot. Even so, it is important that, as professionals, we explain as much as possible, so that our clients can make informed decisions and make the best choices throughout this important transaction.

**Bashful** is shy and afraid to ask questions. He does not want to bother me, and feels like he is imposing when he has questions or concerns. When Bashful shows up, I need to make sure that

#### by Laurie Dubow

he is comfortable with me and the process, and that all of his concerns get addressed.

**Sneezy** has allergies, asthma, or some sort of disability that makes it even more important to take into account the physical condition of the home and the timing and length of the process. How much time will we allocate to look at property, what type of inspections will be performed, are there special conditions that might make association approval more challenging, what structural changes are feasible for the property, and will we need extra time to pack and move. We must anticipate as much as possible, so that we can make the process comfortable and that we have successful end result.

**Sleepy** is just tired. Sometimes, he is tired of schlepping his kids in the car to look at property, tired of cleaning the house for another showing, tired that the process of buying a property or getting a mortgage can take a long time, tired that they have not gotten an offer on their home, or tired of packing up their belongings for the move. No matter how much we prepare, there is often a point in the process in which buyers and sellers become tired.

**Happy** is where we all want to end up. The process of buying or selling a home can transform anyone into Grumpy, Doc, Dopey, Bashful, Sneezy, or Sleepy. When it is all said and done, we understand that "home is where the heart is", and for most of us, one of our goals is to live in a place that meets our needs, is comfortable, affordable, and helps to bring joy into our lives. Although it is not possible to live in Disney World, it is my job to help all of my clients find their "happy place".

I wish all of my FAWL friends and colleagues a happy, joyful, and prosperous 2018. It is my honor to be your sponsor, and I look forward to another awesome year of working together

Laurie Dubow merged her Real Estate Brokerage with the Signature Companies in 2014, forming a true Real Estate Concierge! Now Broker of Signature Paradise Realty Int'l and Co-Broker of Signature Commercial Real Estate, Laurie brings a unique perspective. Along with her extensive real estate and mortgage expertise, she has a 20-year background in counseling, with a master's degree in psychotherapy, and a postmaster's in business administration. She earned the Luxury Home Marketing Specialist Designation, as well as the CDPE and REO Specialist Certification, which she has utilized in her experience testifying in court as an expert witness for real estate related matters. Laurie is passionate about helping others understand the importance of balancing the "emotional, psychological & financial aspects of real estate". For more information, visit <u>www.SignatureParadise.com</u> or call (561) 929-3329.

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## TRADEMARKS 101: THE BENEFITS OF FEDERAL REGISTRATION

#### by Anila S. Rasul, Esq.



As anyone who's started their own business will tell you, it's easy to become overwhelmed by day-to-day operations and potentially allow important details to fall through the cracks. One such overlooked detail is the proper registration of a business' marks to protect its most valuable intangible aspects of the brand.

A common question asked by many of my business services clients is whether it's worth registering their business' name. This is inevitably followed by "what exactly does a trademark do, anyway?" A

business' identity, as reflected by its brand name, logo, tagline or slogan, may actually turn out to be its most valuable asset. Therefore, investing in trademark registration should not only be considered a necessary cost of doing business, but a vital investment into that business' longevity.

According to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), a trademark is "a word, phrase, symbol, and/or design that identifies and distinguishes the source of the goods of one party from those of others." Similarly, a service mark is a mark that distinguishes the source of a service. However, colloquially speaking, the word "trademark" typically refers to both marks of goods and marks of services. While trademarks are often confused with patents or copyrights, the latter protects the substantive works of a business or idea and the former protects a business' identity and brand. Also, among other differences, trademark rights are derived from the actual use of the mark and do not necessarily expire once registered as long as it remains in use.

Oftentimes, owners only seek to protect their business' identity after discovering a similarly named competitor in the area or having been served with a Cease and Desist letter, long after they've hung their shingle and opened up shop. But, in reality, trademark searches and registration should be the first steps when establishing any business and should always occur before registering the business' name with the State or buying website domains. While registration of a trademark is not mandatory (since you can establish the right to use a mark based on prior use of the mark in commerce) and the general rule is whomever first utilizes a mark in business ultimately has the right to use such mark, there are numerous benefits to federally registering a trademark, especially early in the life of the business. The most convincing of these benefits are explored further below.

### **Notice of Ownership**

Registration of a trademark through the actual use of a mark without federally registering, U.S.

registration provides a presumption of ownership throughout the country and the exclusive right to use such mark in association with a particular good or service. Given that a business' brand (usually represented by its mark) often translates to a tangible ownership interest held by its owners that is sellable and assignable, federal registration of such mark can be very important to a company's success and worth.

#### Searchability and Deterrent to Others

After registration, a trademark appears on the USPTO's trademark database and can easily be found by anyone searching for a similar mark. However, business owners can deter others from using a mark by simply adding a notation after the mark. To indicate a mark has been registered with the USPTO, a ® symbol should be placed after the mark. However, if a mark has not been registered, is in the application process or is being used as a trademark or service mark pursuant to common law rules, then a TM for goods and a SM for services can be similarly placed after a mark to indicate its use.

#### Geographic coverage

While states also provide trademark registration, any protection offered applies only within that particular state. Failing to federally register a trademark can potentially pose the problem of other companies in different states using similar marks, thereby causing a conflict of use. Federally registering a trademark can also help with international trademark issues. For example, when filed with U.S. Customs, a registered trademark prevents the import of goods into the United States that may be attempting to infringe on a U.S. registered brand. So, while registration cannot prohibit the production of such good overseas per se, it prevents them from being imported and sold locally. Additionally, a U.S. registration can also be used as a basis to obtain registration in other countries when a brand grows internationally.

#### **Assists with Court Cases**

While trademark registration serves to limit duplicate usage, there may be occasions in which a business owner is forced to bring an action to prohibit another from using a similar mark. A federally registered trademark provides significant protection and may even entitle a company to treble damages if a mark is easily identifiable and there is a provable loss of business due to the violation of a trademark.

While in no way an exhaustive list, these are among the more common benefits of federally registering a U.S. trademark that every business owner should consider. Regardless of the good or service at issue, federally registering a business' mark is imperative to protecting its identity and can avoid potentially devastating effects of brand encroachment. If you are interested in learning more about how I may help you or your clients with protecting a business brand identity, contact me at (561) 961-8695 or anila@asrlawfirm.com.

Anila S. Rasul is an attorney with ASR Law Firm focusing on real estate, business services, estate planning, trademark registration, and contract law. © 2017 Anila S. Rasul. All Rights Reserved.



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## AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE REGARDING **RECORDS AND APPENDICES TOOK EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1, 2017**



On September 7, 2017, the Supreme Court of Florida amended the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure regarding the record on appeal and any appendix filed in appellate proceedings. The amendments took effect on October 1, 2017. In re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure, 225 So. 3d 223 (Fla. 2017). The bulk of the changes were to rule 9.200 ("The Record") and rule 9.220 ("Appendix"), but several other rules were affected as well.

Rule 9.200(f)(3) now provides for the appellate court to direct the clerk of the lower tribunal to submit a compliant record, which will replace a previously-filed noncompliant record, in instances where the court finds that the record is not in compliance with the technical or formatting requirements of rule 9.200(d). Rule 9.200(d)(4) points out that attorneys (and parties who are registered users of the court's e-filing system) may download the electronic record on appeal in their cases from the e-filing system docket such as the docket within eDCA. The amendments most directly affecting appellate practitioners are to rule 9.220, where the Florida Supreme Court established certain requirements for the preparation and electronic filing of appendices to appellate briefs, petitions, motions, responses, or replies. Many of these requirements are similar to obligations that were already in effect in the Fourth District since June 10, 2016, under Administrative Order 2016-2 of the Fourth DCA.

The new statewide requirements for electronic appendices under Rule 9.220 include the following (along with some parenthetical clarifications and some notations about additional requirements in the Fourth District's administrative order):

The appendix must contain a certificate of service.

The appendix must include a coversheet, which must state: the name of the court; the style of the cause, including the case number if assigned; the party on whose behalf the appendix is filed; the title of the petition, brief, motion, response, or reply for which the appendix is served; and the name and address of the attorney, or pro se party, filing the

#### by Robin I. Bresky, Esq.

appendix.

The appendix must be prepared and filed electronically as a separate PDF file (separate from the petition, brief, motion, response, or reply which it accompanies).

The PDF file must be text searchable.

The electronically-filed appendix must be filed as one document, unless size limitations or technical requirements established by the Florida Supreme Court Standards for Electronic Access to the Courts require multiple parts.

The appendix must be properly indexed and consecutively paginated, beginning with the cover sheet as page one.

The PDF file must be paginated so that the page numbers displayed by the PDF reader exactly match the pagination of the index. (Thus, for example, the page displayed in the PDF reader as the 25th page of the PDF file must be numbered "25.")

The PDF file must be bookmarked, consistently with the index, such that each bookmark states the date and name of the document which it references. (It is also helpful, even if not yet required, for each bookmark to state the PDF page number on which the bookmarked document begins. This is already a requirement for electronic records on appeal, where each bookmark must state "the date, name, and record page of the filing." Rule 9.200(d)(1)(C)(iii).)

All bookmarks must be viewable in a separate (or side) window of the PDF reader.

The appendix must not contain any condensed transcripts (such as four-pane "mini" transcripts), unless authorized by the court.

Each bookmark must direct to the first page of the referenced document. (Additionally, Fourth DCA AO2016-2 prohibits an electronically-filed appendix from containing additional divider or tab pages before those documents, as would have been included in a paper appendix.)

Beyond those requirements, the Fourth DCA's AO2016-2 also points out that all appendices must be in compliance with Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.420 and 2.425 regarding the protection of confidential records and the minimization of the filing of sensitive information. For example, Rule 2.425 requires redactions such as using only the initials for the names of minors. Under rule 2.420(d)(2), "The filer of any document containing confidential information ... shall, at the time of filing, file with the clerk a 'Notice of Confidential Information within Court Filing' in order to indicate that confidential information described ... is included within the document being filed and also indicate that either the entire document is confidential or identify the precise location of the confidential information within the

document being filed."

Additionally, the amendments to Rule 9.220 created subdivision (d), regulating the formatting of appendices where a paper format is authorized as an exception under Fla. R. Jud. Admin 2.525(d) to the general electronic filing requirements of rules 2.520(a) and 2.525. For instance, certain pro se individuals may file paper documents. An appendix in paper format must be separate from the petition, brief, motion, response, or reply to which it pertains, and it must not be bound because binding would impede scanning the document. Rule 9.220(d). (Similarly, rule 9.210(a)(3) requires that "briefs filed in paper format shall not be stapled or bound.") If the paper appendix includes documents filed before January 1991 on legal-size paper, those documents should be reduced to letter-sized copies.

Several other rules of appellate procedure also received amendments related to electronic records and took effect on October 1.2017. These additional amendments include:

- Rule 9.020(I) (defining the term "E-filing System Docket");
- review decisions of district courts of appeal);
- hearing, for review proceedings in collateral or postconviction criminal cases);
- the county court has certified to be of great public importance); and
- compensation cases).

Effective October 1, 2017, electronic appendices that do not comply with the amended rule 9.220 will be stricken. The Law Offices of Robin Bresky, an appellate law firm in South Florida and serving all of Florida, is available to address questions regarding these amendments or assist with compliance with the new requirements.

Robin I. Bresky is an appellate attorney at the Law Offices of Robin Bresky. Robin is a past president of both SPBC FAWL and State FAWL. © 2017 Robin I. Bresky. All Rights Reserved.

Rule 9.120(e) (providing requirements for the clerk of the district court of appeal when preparing and transmitting the record to the Florida Supreme Court when the Court has accepted jurisdiction, or postponed a decision on jurisdiction, in discretionary proceedings to

Rule 9.141(b)(3)(B)(ii) (regarding a lower court clerk's renumbering of record pages when preparing the record for review of a grant or denial of a motion after an evidentiary

Rule 9.160 (changing "filed" to "transmitted" with reference to records prepared for discretionary proceedings for the DCA to review certain decisions of county courts, which would otherwise be appealable to the circuit court sitting in its appellate capacity but which

Rule 9.180 (changing "filed" and "delivered" to "transmitted," and changing "send" to "transmit," with reference to records prepared for appeal proceedings to review workers'

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

SPBC FAWL was founded in 2003. SPBC FAWL's mission is to advance the professional status of women lawyers, to promote the rights of women generally, to enhance the visibility of women within the legal profession and within their communities, and to create and maintain supportive networks among women in the legal and other professions.

## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

**Articles:** Would you like to contribute an article to the newsletter? We welcome both members and sponsors to contribute articles on a variety of topics--anything from the legal, to the educational, to the fun, to the causes that are near to your heart. Please submit a headshot along with your article. All article submissions should be in Microsoft Word format.

Member News: Our newsletter is your platform for sharing your successes, good news, future plans, or anything else! Let our members know what's going on with your business or your life. Educate members on your area of expertise. Did you receive an award? Did you give a lecture or presentation? What is your specialty? Let's support one another. Let us in on your news! Please submit a headshot along with your member news.All member news submissions should be in Microsoft Word format.

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Please submit all articles, member news, sponsor and member advertisements, and FAWL Grams to Newsletter Editor Lisa Paige Glass at Lisa@GlassAdoption.com.

## **MEMBER BENEFITS**

Being a member of SPBC FAWL has so many wonderful benefits! Networking, friendship, mentoring, invatations to a variety of events, access to the newsletter, and automatic membership in State FAWL. The benefits of being a member of State FAWL are numerous--including a vast library of free CLEs! For any questions regarding membership, please contact Membership Director Marissa Gart at marissa@schuttlergreenberg.com. For a list of membership benefits, please visit www.spbcfawl.org/membership and www.fawl.org/assets/ docs/memberand%20state%20benefits.pdf.

## JOIN OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Please join or renew your membership with SPBC FAWL! You can join or renew your membership at any of our events or online at <u>www.spbcfawl.org</u>. Membership is available to female and male lawyers, the judiciary, and law students. In order to help and encourage law students to become involved in the legal community, SPBC FAWL has a scholarship fund to help law students pay for membership in SPBC FAWL. For any questions regarding membership, please contact Membership Director Marissa Gart at marissa@ schuttlergreenberg.com.

## **BECOME A SPONSOR**

Becoming a sponsor of SPBC FAWL is a wonderful way to meet our members and educate them about your business while at the same time supporting the advancement of women in the legal profession and enabling this orgaization to thrive. SPBC FAWL welcomes annual sponsors at all levels as well as sponsors for specific events. For more information about sponsorship opportunities and the many benefits of being a sponsor of SPBC FAWL, please contact Development Director Alan Crane at ACrane@FurrCohen.com.



## THANK YOU TO OUR **ANNUAL SPONSORS!!!**





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### December 2017

 Holiday Party, Wednesday, December 20, 2017, from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M., at Seagate Country Club, 3600 Hamlet Drive, Delray Beach, FL 33445.

### January 2018

- Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, January 3, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Joint Luncheon with SPBC Bar Association, with Guest Speaker Florida Bar President Michael J. Higer, Tuesday, January 11, 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at Morton's Steakhouse, 5050 Town Center Circle, #219, Boca Raton, FL 33486
- Happy Hour, Date, Time, & Location TBD.

## February 2018

- Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, February 7, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Membership Luncheon, Thursday, February 15, 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at City Fish Market, 7940 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33434, Guest Speaker Ellen Leibovitch on Employment Law.
- Annual Judicial Reception Honoring South County Judges and Magistrates, Date, Time, & Location TBD.

### March 2018

 Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, March 7, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431. 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at City Fish Market, 7940 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33434, Guest Speaker Judge Jessica Ticktin.

 Past Presidents Committee "Woman Lawyer of the Year" Awards Ceremony Honoring Michelle Suskauer, President-Elect of the Florida Bar, Thursday, March 29, 2018, from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M., Woodfield Country Club, 3650 Club Palce, Boca Raton, FL 33496.

### <u>April 2018</u>

- Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, April 4, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Membership Luncheon, Thursday, April 12, 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at City Fish Market, 7940 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33434.
- **Spring Fling Happy Hour**, Date, Time, & Location TBD.

## <u>May 2018</u>

- Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, May 2, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Membership Luncheon, Thursday, May 10, 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at City Fish Market, 7940 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33434.

### <u>June 2018</u>

- Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, June 6, 2018, from 12 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Frank, Weinberg & Black, P.L., Lynn Financial Center, 1875 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 10, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- Installation Luncheon, Thursday, June 14, 2018, from 11:45 A.M. to 1:15 P.M., at City Fish Market, 7940 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33434.

## • Membership Luncheon, Thursday, March 8, SPBC FAWL IS ONLINE!

~Visit SPBC FAWL online at <u>www.spbcfawl.org</u> and <u>www.facebook.com/SPBCFAWL</u> for

photos of past events and information on upcoming events.

~RSVP to events directly on SPBC FAWL's website, <u>www.spbcfawl.org</u>.

~Please note that the <u>dates, times, and locations of events are subject to change</u>, and <u>happy hours will be scheduled periodically</u>, so please check the website and any emails you receive for the most current information.