



December 7, 2012

Deborah O'Regan, Esq.
Executive Director
ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION
840 K Street
Suite 100
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Re: Formation of a Federal Practice Section

Dear Ms. O'Regan:

I am writing to request the formation of a new section of the Alaska Bar Association dedicated to Federal Practice. The section would meet in Washington, D.C.

As I have discussed with others, the formation of a new section would serve at least three purposes.

First, substantive discussion of federal practice. Many members of the Alaska Bar who are active in the greater-D.C. area are engaged in some form of federal-government practice that is distinct from other practice areas. Members help clients navigate federal administrative permitting and appeal processes, represent or hold senior positions at entities engaged in federal contracting, and assist clients with Congressional and Executive relations. Others work in federal agencies or on Capitol Hill. Numerous Alaskan interests are considerably affected by federal policy and practices, and members of the Bar would benefit from the creation of a forum that, from time to time, could allow members to hear from, and put questions to, key experts and decision makers. A section of the Bar focusing on federal practice would address topics of common interest to many, and allow members to serve as substantive resources for each other.

Second, collegiality. Today, there are at least three dozen members of the Alaska Bar living and practicing in the greater Washington, D.C. area. Yet, there is currently no efficient means for members to find each other. A new section could help organize the community, promote social bonds, and foster collegial relationships.

Third, CLE events. The Alaska Bar Association has never hosted a CLE event in the nation's capital. Members practicing in Washington, D.C. who have not had the good fortune to attend annual conventions or other live CLE events in Alaska have historically resorted to DVDs, video streams, or printed materials to continue their legal educations, and fulfill annual MCLE requirements. A D.C.-based section could host live CLE offerings, and afford members greater opportunity to ask questions and participate in discussions, and thereby derive more value from CLE events.

The following seven members of the Bar have expressed a strong interest in becoming members of a new Federal Practice section:

William D. Falsey
FOXKISER LLP
750 17th St. NW, Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20006

Bryan Haskins
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
4801 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Joshua Ahsoak
ASRC FEDERAL HOLDING COMPANY
6303 Ivy Lane, Suite 130
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Willa B. Perlmutter
CROWELL & MORING LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20004-2595

Christine S. Baglin
PROJECT PERFORMANCE CORPORATION
1760 Old Meadow Road
McLean, VA 22102

Brittany P. Roberts
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
4801 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20016

Jon M. DeVore
BIRCH, HORTON, BITTNER & CHEROT
1155 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20036

It is reasonable to believe that additional members would participate in the section once it is established. While the section would convene in Washington, D.C., it could readily accommodate participation from members by phone or video-feed from Alaska, or elsewhere.

Please kindly submit this letter to the Board of Governors so that the Board can vote on the matter at its next meeting.

Thank you for your time and assistance in helping us establish this new section. If you or the Board of Governors would like any additional information, please feel free to call me.

Very truly yours,



William D. Falsey
Alaska Bar No. 0511099

cc: Joshua Ahsoak, Esq.
Christine S. Baglin, Esq.
Jon M. DeVore, Esq.
Bryan Haskins, Esq.
Willa B. Perlmutter, Esq.
Brittany P. Roberts, Esq.

JoAnne Baker